

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



AGRICULTURE

VOL. LXIV.

BOSTON, MASS., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 1905

WHOLE NO. 3330

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN  
Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN PUB. CO.  
Publishers and Proprietors.  
ISSUED WEEKLY AT  
NO. 5 STATE STREET,  
Boston, Mass.

TERMS:  
\$5.00 per annum in advance. \$2.50 if not paid in advance. Postage free. Single copies 5 cents.  
Persons sending contributions to the PLOUGHMAN for use in its columns must sign their names, and, if possible, their addresses. Contributions should be sent to the publisher, and not to the printer. All matter intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper, with ink, and upon one side.

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## Machine Farming in a Hill Town.

The farming experiences of a retired grocer of Holyoke have been attracting considerable attention in western Massachusetts. The farm is located in a neighborhood where land is cheap. A pasture of one hundred acres with some woodland was recently sold for \$175 and run down farm land of various grades is valued at only about \$10 per acre. It is a region typical of the hill sections of western New England, with good soil and good agricultural conditions not fully appreciated by the owners and by real estate agents.

This Holyoke grocer, J. R. Smith by name, bought fifteen hundred acres of this run down farm land in the town of Hawley, about five years ago, including considerable valuable woodland in his purchase at the low price mentioned. The large farm thus acquired was then equipped with up-to-date modern machinery, including sulky plows, manure spreaders, potato planters, spraying machinery, harvesters, binders, mowers, threshers, hay forks, too cutting machinery, dairy implements. It is thus an interesting experiment on the possibility of profitably using wholesale Western methods on low-priced New England land.

It must be said that so far the improvement in the land must be taken as a part or all of the profit. The owner is positive that now that the fields are cleared of brush and stone, his enterprise will prove a success in every way. The total investment represents a sum of \$30,000 and good crops are needed to pay interest, expenses and profits. His twenty acres of potatoes this year cost him for labor and fertilizer, etc., \$1100, but the crop is 250 bushels to the acre, and he hopes to receive \$2500 from his potatoes alone. He uses fertilizer liberally, a ton to the acre, and after the potatoes he gets a heavy crop of hay for the next five years.

The farm laborers include a number of Italians hired from the neighboring city of Springfield. These are paid \$30 per month and board, and prove good workers, twelve hours a day work in the busy season. Good board and good beds contribute to their comfort, likewise the use of labor-saving machinery, and they appear better contented than the average farm help.

## Farming as a Business.

Higher cultivation is the watch-word. G. M. Clark, Hingham, Ct.  
We should realize that we have a grand opportunity, a business that will pay sure earnings, that will keep pace with the expense.—C. S. Stetson, Androscoogin County, Me.

As a matter of fact, there is no money in farming under present conditions, and it is radically wrong to make an attempt to deceive the farming community by trying to make them think that they are doing well, and are prosperous. Wingate E. Gibbs, Glenburn, Penobscot County, Me.  
Commercially there are greater opportunities for money-making in New England today than anywhere else in the country. The soil is not worn out, the market is close at hand.—J. H. Hale, Hartford County, Ct.  
Many a farmer laid in Boston working for ten to twelve dollars per week, out of which must come his room rent, board and washing, has often wished he was back on the farm. I have had them say to me, "The farm was not the worst place, and I would like to be there." I surely believe that they could or would return to the country home and grow fruits they would be much happier, and I know they would not work near so hard.—A. Warren Patch, Suffolk County, Mass.

## Soil Analysis Deceptive.

The first question that suggests itself to the average mind is that of plant food. Is there plenty of available plant food? It is supposed by many that this question can be readily answered by a chemical analysis; but as yet the chemists do not feel that their analysis gives a satisfactory answer to the question.

The plant food in a soil may be divided into that portion which becomes dissolved during the growth of the crop, and that which does not. The principal problem in soil analysis has been to find a solvent which would dissolve the materials in the proportion in which they are dissolved by the plants.

It is comparatively easy to make a complete analysis of the soil; but such an analysis gives but little information as to the amount of materials that a plant can take from the soil; and while many solvents have been tried with the hope that the amounts of food shown would correspond with the growth of crops on the soil a satisfactory solvent has not yet been found.

Another reason for this unsatisfactory

condition is that the weight of material removed from an acre of soil by one crop is so small in comparison with the weight of the soil on an acre to a depth of two or three feet as to lie within the limits of error of analysis. Of two soils one might contain enough soluble food, say a crop of wheat, and the other not enough and yet the analysis be practically the same.

Even the amounts of potash, phosphoric acid or nitrogen which are usually added per acre in fertilizers, if disseminated through the first two feet of the soil would scarcely show on analysis and yet we know that they show a marked effect on the yield of the crop.—J. D. Timley.

## The Sheep Situation.

Speaking of the right methods for a prosperous sheep industry, Mortimer Leavitt, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, makes the following points:

Avoidance of inflation and over-speculation.

Breeding with the object of securing two crops of maximum value annually.

Continuance of cultivation of the American mutton ewe's palate.

His prognostication summarized is: That the 1906 wool clip may be sold at twenty-four to twenty-five cents per pound without risk.

That no drop in the price of wool is likely until the growing clip has gone into consumption.

That further inflation of values will eventually cause loss.

That the danger point in a speculative sense has been reached.

That the industry cannot continue prosperous on a wool basis alone.

## Jersey Island Farming.

The average size of the farms is about 85 acres. The island of Jersey not only has a population of fifty-five thousand, but a visiting population of forty thousand to fifty thousand yearly. It is a great summer resort for France as well as England. Now then if you can imagine a farm of ten thousand acres feeding—almost entirely—a population of fifty-five thousand islanders and entertaining yearly forty to fifty thousand visitors, and at the same time exporting between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 worth of farm products yearly, you have something of an idea of what this little island is capable of doing in the farming line. I say something of an idea, no one really knows how much they do produce as there are no records excepting of produce exported. The principal imports are meat and grain. To an American it seems as if we did not know the A. B. C. of agriculture in this country as compared with the farmers of this little island.

## THEIR PLOWS

Instead of being built as all American plows are with very slanting mould boards—with a view of making them light of draft—are just the reverse, the mould boards of these island plows are almost at right angles to the beam, at least I should say to guess at it that they were at an angle less than forty-five degrees to the line of draft. The plowing season is one of great importance, and farmers change work with each other as no one farmer has horses enough to do his own plowing.

There is a man at each plow and a driver besides that at each corner, or turning, there is a man who spades up the ground to the required depth where the plow begins to run shallow. They usually plow lengthwise of the field and carry the furrow across the ends. Other men follow the last plow and knock to pieces with a fork every lump of earth that is left on the surface. Altogether it requires ten horses and eight to ten men and boys to do a bit of plowing.

But when it is done the soil is so thoroughly pulverized that the whole seed bed is like a loosely deposited ash heap, it is not only plowed, but harrowed and pulverized like ground grain to the very bottom of the furrow. No one puts foot upon it until it is planted.

## THOROUGH WORK.

To an American who is accustomed to select plows that win at plowing contests because of doing the best work with the lightest draft, these ungainly rooting machines look behind the times. But when you come to think of it, you begin to realize that the most scientifically constructed plow as to draft may do the most unscientific work, you begin to think our American plows are not plowing at all, but instead are just turning a furrow of earth up side down with hardly a break in it. The soil hardly knows that anything has happened to disturb it. Is this plowing? I ask you, young gentlemen, to think this question over carefully and perhaps you will come to the conclusion that possibly the best and most scientific plow that money can buy, according to the American standard of excellence, does not guarantee the best or most scientific plowing.

## FEED AND PASTURAGE.

The horses are mostly kept up the year round, fed hay in winter and selling crops in summer. All the young cattle and dry cows are stable fed on selling crops during the summer. The cows in milk only going to the fields, where instead of being turned loose they are secured by chains.

The fences are of rope and chain—(the chain part has a curl in it), are about ten feet in length, and are fastened to a chain about the horse. An iron pin about ten inches long, is driven into the ground with a wooden mallet to keep the animals in place. These pins are pulled up and moved a few inches or a few feet forward two or three times a day according to the growth of grass in front of them. A growth of grass in front of them will head of milk cows in that way will start at one end of a field ten feet apart, each one eating a swath across the field, when the part first eaten over is ready to

be gone over again. In this way a field is moved over a dozen times or more in a season. If the grass in June, as it usually does, gets the start of the cow, it is cut into hay. The winter feed of the cows is a little look of hay night and morning, possibly four or six pounds, and a bushel or more of cut mangels. It is safe to say that seventy-five per cent. or more of a Jersey cow's feed in winter is roots.

I think I have now sufficiently accounted for the ability of the island farmers to grow such immense crops and to keep such a great number of animals on such a small acreage. Raising larger crops enabled the farmers to keep more stock. Keeping more stock enabled them to raise larger crops. That's the story of successful agriculture everywhere in the world. The great mistake it seems to me of the farmers of New England is in selling so much hay and grain and keeping so little stock.—F. S. Pear, Kennebec County, Me.

## Live Stock in Vermont.

The sheep and the horse are commanding renewed attention throughout the State. Although the Morgan horse will always be



THE LARGEST PRIVATE APPLE STORAGE HOUSE IN NEW ENGLAND.  
Dimensions, 42x100, with a capacity of 12,000 barrels of apples. Property of E. Cyrus Miller, Hillside Farm, Haydenville, Mass. See article "Hillside Fruit Farming."

claimed as one of Vermont's best products, yet now as oxen are little used a grade horse of some eleven hundred to fourteen hundred pounds weight seems to be the sort wanted and now being bred. Such a first-class stallion of Morgan and Hambletonian blood M. S. Haasbrook has at Benson.

Speaking of horses brings to mind I. N. Case of Brandon, formerly of Winoski, Vt., who by his sweetest winnings this season has with his young trotter surprised the West.

The many friends of Mr. Case, and they include all of his acquaintances, congratulate him on his financial success this season, all the more so because he is an all-round farmer and has just bought the Watson stock farm at Benson, including, with its extensive acres and numerous horses, a fine herd each of Ayrshire and Normandy dairy cattle, also a flock of Hampshire Down sheep. Mr. Case is further to be congratulated on the fact that Mrs. Case and his sons are enthusiastic managers of the stock. The Normandy cattle, of which they have one of the best of the very few herds in the whole country, are a large, hardy breed, combining good beef and dairy points; cattle of docile disposition and easy keepers. If these are not the cows with which crossing with the buffalo has been tried, their style would seem to suggest them as good subjects for the experiment.

In the whole State I find no large flocks of sheep, the main point of late years being to raise some pure-blooded Merinos for breeding purposes to ship. Yet the present prices of wool and meat tend to the growth of more and larger flocks. Information is also wanted on the goat industry, the land for which would seem to be cheap and plenty in northeastern Vermont.

Farming is less varied in Vermont than in the other Eastern States. Aside from Maine, possibly, market gardening and small fruit culture on any extensive scale are rarely seen, though around the larger towns and small cities of the State such enterprises pay the investor.

At West Cornwall I noticed that O. A. Field on retiring from his large farm had started at the village a fine, well-served bed of grapes which he had just put to sleep under its natural cover of rotten wood. Here also H. E. Taylor does quite a good business in raising apples, small fruits and garden truck in general.

Veal calves, milk cows and other live stock are shipped from various points in Vermont for the Boston market by rail. The old style driver business is generally abandoned. But at Pawlet, W. C. Mason starts several drives of cows for western Massachusetts, having lately moved one of about three hundred head. He drives them across the lower part of the State to the Connecticut river, then down the valley in Massachusetts through Franklin and Hampshire counties, selling to farmers on the road that wish stock to feed during the winter months.

## H. M. FORTIN.

Measuring Grass Lands in the Fall.  
It seems curious that, while most farmers put their barn manure upon their grass land in autumn, the cow is differed with regard to chemical manure, as by far the

larger number of farmers apply these in the spring. While this is, of course, right as far as regards topdressing of ammoniacal manures, where some of the fertilizing ammonia, which is easily dissolved, would have a chance of being washed away during heavy floods, caused by the melting of the snow, the same argument does not apply to phosphate manures such as superphosphate, bones or basic slag, it being admitted by all practical farmers that these manures require considerable time to assimilate with the soil, there being required four or even five months before the benefit of any real benefit is derived.

This opinion is derived not from scientific knowledge, but from practical observation of land treated, whereby it has been easy to obtain the knowledge necessary to provide the above arguments, and any farmer can prove the same. If he will try the experiment I am sure he will find it equally beneficial to put phosphoric and potassic manures on in autumn as it is to put on farmyard manure at that season of the year. What holds good for one, holds good for the other, and the reason is obvious. The manure put on in autumn is dissolved by the rain or snow, and undergoes a chemical

change, admitted to be necessary by scientists. Not being a scientist, I will not attempt to explain the why and the wherefore, but common sense teaches that such a change requires time; when it is accomplished spring has arrived, and the phosphoric manure put on in the autumn has not washed out of the soil, but is ready to be taken up at once by the grass plant when required, and this is regained in one year in one year's crop, a large proportion of the outlay, which would under the present system of spring manuring be lost for the time being, and not be recovered to any great extent until the following year.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED

is to have the manure ready to be taken up when the plant is ready to take it, just in the case of a beast—you prepare him before hand by putting him forward until he is ready to make use of artificial food. By adopting a similar method, most benefit is derived from phosphate manures by applying them before they are absolutely required by the plant. There are other arguments in favor of autumn manuring, one especially in case of farmyard manure being this protection given, if hard frosts set in before the snow comes; and again, farmers have more time to put on the manure than in the spring, and the hauling is also far easier. Many and many are the complaints made year after year, with regard to the disappointing results of spring manuring, and yet farmers do not take heed, and having put on their artificial late in spring wonder at poor results, and too often blame the manure; and forget this when in the following year they derive benefits which come a year late.

## POTASH AND PHOSPHATE.

Experiments have been made of manuring rye grasses and clover, with occasional additions of some of the natural grasses, and the objects arrived at were: (1.) To discover what, if any, quantity of potash could most profitably be included in a complete hay manure. (2.) To compare the relative efficiency of phosphate slag and superphosphate as sources of phosphoric acid for hay crops. (3.) To compare sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda as sources of nitrogen. (4.) More particularly to discover what advantage might be derived from employing a mixture of these two manures in preference to either of them alone. Rye grass and clover hay are largely grown and artificial manures are, by advanced farmers, very largely used and with success; it has been found that even in a season when the crop is naturally heavy, artificial may be used with advantage.

It is well to remember that potash is a necessary and effective constituent of a hay manure on heavy soils as well as on light ones. The most profitable quantity to apply in a complete hay manure is, judging from experiments made, that supplied in about one hundredweight of muriate of potash of seventy-five to eighty per cent purity, and the potash is equally effective whether applied in the form of muriate or sulphate.

## NITROGEN MANURES.

A mixture of nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia is not superior to either of

these manures used separately. It is singular that in these experiments, in comparison between nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, no uniform superiority showed itself in one over the other, while it is of practical service to know that farmyard manure gives a much larger crop and far more profitable returns when nitrate of soda is applied with it than when it is applied alone.

The use of artificial manures has grown so considerably the last ten or fifteen years that there is little excuse nowadays for any farmer not knowing something about the nature of this character; and yet how many there are, who either, through ignorance or having such conservative ideas as "what was good enough for grandfather is good enough for me," still only use farmyard manure.

## W. R. GILBERT.

## Saying Store Feed.

In general it will pay the farmer who has ear corn to have it ground into corn and cob meal and buy some of the cheaper, more nitrogenous concentrates to supplement it. Cottonseed meal is richest in protein but is high in price when total digestible matter is considered.

Stock wheat middlings and dried distiller's grains are comparatively rich in protein, and are also among the lowest in price. Where they can be had at the prices given, their use is to be recommended for a part of the ration at least. Since they both tend to produce a soft, oily butter fat it might be advisable to feed a little cottonseed meal to counteract this tendency. Wheat bran, often fed for the protein it contains is rather low in this constituent, and is also among the highest in price when digestibility is considered. It and oil meal or linseed meal are valuable, however, for their general effect upon the condition of the animal. Alfalfa meal, just now being widely advertised, proves to be one of the most expensive feeding stuffs on the market, if we assume that its digestibility is the same as that of alfalfa hay. There seems to be no reason for assuming that its digestibility would be any greater, and it might possibly be less.

Each year a number of new brands of stock feeds is put on the market. In the majority of instances the base of each of these is a by-product of the manufacture of some more valuable article. These by-products are sometimes sold alone and sometimes mixed with some of the staple feeding stuffs. They are often sold under fancy names which give no clue to their composition, and are frequently on the market some time before an official examination can be made and the results announced.

It is always best to buy these in small quantities and test them before laying in a supply. This, however, is not always practicable and the next best thing is to rely upon the testimony or the experience of some responsible party. Even this may be misleading, as conditions are not always the same and some are not so readily apparent. In case nothing definite can be learned concerning the new feed except through the manufacturer or agent, it is wise to stick to the standard known brand or article.—T. I. Mairs, State College, Centre County, Pa.

## Care of Carriages.

The following instructions are given by an experienced carriage builder in reference to the care of the carriages: Freshly varnished carriages should be washed frequently and exposed to the air in the shade and should not be covered until the varnish has become hard. Mud allowed to dry upon fresh varnish will leave spots, and exposure to ammonia will destroy fresh varnish. Plenty of water should be used, and great care taken that it is not driven into the body of the carriage, to the injury of the lining. For the body panels a large soft sponge must be used, and when saturated squeezed over the panels, and thus, by the flowing down of the water, the dirt will be softened and run off harmlessly. Care should be taken to wipe the surface dry with soft chamois leather. Never use the same sponge and chamois for panels which are used for running gear. Never use soap on varnished surfaces and only to take off the grease and dirt around the hubs and axles.

## Notes from Washington, D. C.

The American Association of Farmers Institute Workers held their sessions at Washington this week. Farming as a science has been discussed at the daily sessions, while a suggestion was adopted to broaden the scope of the organization by the appointment of standing committees, the work of their sessions. More money will be necessary to put this plan in operation. As the organization is an international one, it is thought Congress might refuse to grant the appropriations necessary, and therefore individual States will be asked for funds.

At the session held on Friday Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, W. H. Hays, addressed the session. Among other things Mr. Hays showed the value of the consolidation of small schools in different counties throughout the country into larger institutions where, in addition to the ordinary educational course, students would get instruction in agricultural pursuits. By this plan, it is believed, there would be a far wider knowledge of scientific agriculture among the farmers' children, so that when the younger generation grew to maturity, instead of their own farms, the country would benefit by their receiving sound and practical instruction at the institute. Mr. Hays also said that he was in favor of extending the present eight-year course given in most schools to ten years, the last two to consist of a high school course.

Secretary Hays is credited with being one

of the most advanced agricultural educators in the country. His plans for providing practical farming education for the farmer boys as practised at the University of Minnesota, where he was engaged before he became Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, have created country-wide and even international interest, and his present position under the Government largely widens his scope of influence in this regard.

"The trend of the times is for the country population to drift cityward," he said in a recent talk, "and it will require our combined and most intelligent efforts to prevent this movement from becoming a national calamity. Farm life and the business of farming must be made attractive to the young men of the country, not theoretically attractive, but practically so, if we are to maintain our agricultural balance."

## THE ANNUAL CHRYSANTHEMUM

show of the Department of Agriculture closed last week; the consensus of opinion of all who attended was that the experts of the department are each year bringing the glory of this fall flower nearer and nearer to a climax of size and beauty. The flower at the show greatly admired was a magnificent bloom of yellow—a product of the Department of Agriculture. This yellow bloom was of large size, probably ten inches in diameter, with very heavy petals, curving gracefully inward, making the bloom a perfect ball of gold. Secretary Wilson admired this flower so much that he directed that it be named "The Mrs. Roosevelt," in honor of the First Lady of the Land. The department is making endeavors to produce a pink chrysanthemum of the same general size and texture of The Mrs. Roosevelt. If their experiments are successful and they produce this flower next fall, no doubt it will be named "The Alice Roosevelt." At any rate it is Secretary Wilson's desire to grow a flower to be named for Miss Roosevelt. There were some 100 varieties of chrysanthemums exhibited, with probably one thousand blooms. A curiosity in the plant line was one specimen on which are eighteen different varieties of this fall flower—yellow, red, pink, brown, white, and their intermediate shades. This was accomplished by grafting branches of standard kinds on to the stem of a hardy sort.

## AMERICAN CORN

is being threatened in Europe. It appears, according to a report from Consul Dietrich of Bremen, Germany, that grain dealers in Europe are complaining that the grain upon arrival is frequently found in a wretched condition—damp and overcast, moldy and filthy. Purchases heretofore have been made upon certificates of American boards of trade and chambers of commerce, but now in order to rectify the deplorable condition a number of dealers contemplate taking the matter in hand and remedying the evil by buying, not according to certificates, but solely on the condition that the grain be found of good and sound quality when delivered in the European markets.

During the ten months ending Oct. 31, 1905, the United States exported 86,702,984 bushels of corn, with a value of \$47,170,961, as against 86,908,921 bushels during the same period of 1904, the latter having a value of \$30,141,302.

## BASE OF ALL WEALTH.

Agriculture has always been, and will continue to be, the basic foundation of wealth, and when allied with the factory it reaches its highest development. In this country and Germany these two sources of wealth are nearer together than in any other. England is a vast workshop, but food supplies to a large extent come from the outside. As long as England could make goods and sell to countries depending solely upon the soil she prospered, but the feeling is rising in the colonies and in other countries and English domination of trade is no longer a fact. America, as the present administration now distinguishes its greatness of manufacturing, which is certain to have beneficial influence upon agriculture. Our shops now rival those of England, and as they continue to increase the land must produce an increased ratio to supply our industrial demands as well as to furnish a share of food for the hungry of other countries. The best arable land of the country is already taken up. The problem is more intensive and intelligent cultivation and the application of water to the land in the arid States.

## ROOM FOR EVERY ONE.

Food produced by irrigation will not disturb products and prices in the rural States for the reason that it will be largely consumed in the mines, lumber mills and other industries certain to spring forward in the mountain districts, rich as many of them are with undeveloped material resources, the production of which will add to the general welfare of the whole country. We are too big, and our interests are now so closely identified that no part of the Union can prosper or suffer without every other part being more or less affected. While we produce more farm stuff than any other nation, yet our methods are wasteful, and the art of agriculture as it is known and practised at the best of the experiment stations is not understood by tillers, who in many cases look with disfavor upon what they term "book farming," expounded through bulletins and other forms of printed matter. Persons in no other calling in any country are supplied free of cost with so many useful and valuable publications as are the American farmers.

## GUY E. MITCHELL.

The coach horse must be from fifteen to sixteen hands, handsome, docile, of fine form, good solid color, gentle in all places, of high show action all around, and able to pull a coupe or carryall from seven to ten miles an hour.











## MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Lots of trouble in Russia, besides the consonants.

Pity the sailor prince is married. Many society ducks here would like to go home with the Drake.

Strangely enough young Mr. Hyde says he has hidden nothing, but it appears to us that he protests too much.

The fair land of Poland seems to have got up on its ear, but it is to be hoped that it will not make an ass of itself.

James Corbett, "Gentleman Jim," says that football is a brutal game. Having been in the prize ring he ought to know.

It was a male who was sent from New York to Lynn by mail. He couldn't speak English, but he got there just the same.

President Roosevelt is going to do all that he can to save Niagara. He believes, with Keats, that a thing of beauty is a joy forever.

Alice Roosevelt was not at the Prince's ball. Well, she cannot be everywhere, and she, no doubt, frequently says, "Give us a rest."

The ghosts of those who did not get into the Hall of Fame, like the reproful specter in "Macbeth," will probably stretch out to the crack of doom.

Life may be a prolongation of misery and a series of disillusionments, but it is a conundrum that we do not like to give up. Hence we have centenarians.

Money has been tight, but a similar condition has prevailed elsewhere. Our politicians, for instance, have been intoxicated with their own eloquence.

The American newspapers are all right, according to Louis of Battenberg. Commendation from a real prince is praise, indeed, especially when it is German to the matter.

Norway decides that it wants a king instead of a president. There is one thing to be said in favor of this decision—it will prevent an upheaval every four years like we have in this country.

There is a famine in the shoe market in Chicago, but the big feet of the Chicago girls are still in evidence, and like the old-time New York belle, they are crying they've nothing to wear.

Everybody who visited the "Drake" had a swimming social time in New York harbor. Louis gave a princely entertainment to the social swells. Long may he wave to their appreciative exclamation.

If Japan should be brought into the Christian fold it might learn a lesson in brotherly love from our political speakers. Buddha, the holy and benevolent, can't hold a candle to those who want office.

You never discover how much information you possess until you meet the statesman. Then you find that the other fellow does not know any more than you know yourself in spite of his assurance.

The turkey crop in Rhode Island is said to be large. Nevertheless, the prices for the Thanksgiving birds in Boston will be hopping up the last of the month. Little Rhode cannot now supply all the markets in the country.

The minister who sits down on theatrical amusements has nothing to say about the scandals sometimes retailed at church sewing circles. There is often a great deal of dramatic talk when the needle is plying for the heathen of Boeroboola Ghu.

Prince Louis of Battenberg had nothing to say about New York politics, though he did dine with Mayor McClellan. In his case discretion was the better part of valor. He did not want to fight the Tammany tiger, though he had heard of the beast.

It is anything but Merriweather for the midshipman who killed one of his fellows in a stand-up fight at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and yet he was no more to blame than the chap who stood up against him. He appears to have been the victim of circumstances in a system of prize fighting that was winked at by the authorities. Foolish youth should not be punished for the mistakes of mature age. Remember that, Secretary Bonaparte.

No one who knows Mr. Henry M. Whitney will think for a moment that he intended to quote President Roosevelt incoherently, and the latter gentleman's charge that he was misquoted by Mr. Whitney seems remarkable, considering the fact that others who were at the White House when the informal interview so much discussed took place put the same interpretation on Mr. Roosevelt's words as did Mr. Whitney.

The independent voter has, apparently, no standing in the caucuses. He has to call for either a Republican or a Democratic ballot. Every man does not want to declare himself for one of two parties at the polls, and some modification of the present manner of obtaining ballots will have to be decided upon in order to meet the wishes of all citizens. It may be said that one can carry a poster or obliterate the name and substitute another, but that is not to the point, as we have indicated above.

Hay and corn seem to have proved the most satisfactory of the staple crops in central New England this year, while potatoes were the crop nearest approaching a failure. In regard to potatoes it is a suggestive fact that many growers report sprayed potatoes a success, while in northern Maine, where spraying against blight and rot is a part of the approved method of leading growers, the crop is considered large and profitable. Spraying is a kind of crop insurance which sometimes prevents big losses.

President Lucius Tuttle's address on freight rates at the 123d monthly dinner of the Boston Boot and Shoe Club, on Thursday evening, was a masterful discussion of the subject. It showed conclusively that he had thoroughly familiarized himself with every detail of the matter under consideration, and that Secretary Taft was wrong in his conclusions regarding President Roosevelt's railroad policy. So able an exposition from a practical man of long railroad

experience in an official position fully entitled President Tuttle to the vote of thanks which he so unanimously received at the conclusion of his clear and cogent remarks.

The general produce business of Chicago is estimated at \$315,000,000 for the year ending with October. The annual business appears to have just about doubled during the past ten years. Similar figures have not been compiled for other cities, but the probabilities are that the country as a whole would show a great increase. The Department of Commerce and Labor at Washington declares that during the past five years there has been a rapid increase in the per capita consumptive capacity of workmen in almost every line of employment, a condition largely due to prosperity and advancing wages.

Apparently fearing a second ginseeng craze, the department at Washington is making efforts to head off the attempt to introduce the culture of opium root. It is stated that the various advertisements along this line are entirely misleading. As a matter of fact, the total amount imported averages only about \$20,000 a year and there is no duty. Even in Italy, the country of principal production, the crop is not considered profitable to the growers, although produced at a much lower cost for labor than would be possible in this country. The department in no way encourages the culture of opium except in a purely experimental way, and it is not believed there is a chance to build up an industry in this country under present conditions.

Mr. Thomas W. Lawson's contribution of \$2000 to the fund for purifying the political atmosphere of New York city through the courts is in harmony with his constant desire and endeavor to reform abuses of every description. His characteristically liberal spirit is displayed in this action as it has ever been where the interests of the masses were concerned. He is always fearless in his hostile attitude toward corruption and graft, and he does not hesitate to smite those high in the financial and political world when he deems that they are interfering with the progress of fair dealing and good government. His independence of the numerous kind that seeks to secure for all citizens alike justice and liberty. If there were more men of his stamp there would be fewer rascals in power, and the people would speedily come to their own.

The public winter meeting of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture seems likely to fully maintain its usual high standard, judging from the list of the leaders in agricultural progress who are scheduled to take part. It is also true that some of the best things are not on the programme. They will appear in the discussions, both in the hall and those held informally in the hotel parlors and elsewhere. These three day meetings really constitute a select short course in special agriculture free to all, and the wonder of it is that there are some ambitious young farmers who have never attended even when the meetings have been held under convenient distance. This year's location, Worcester, is the most easily reached of all points, being situated on lines of all the three large railroad systems of New England, besides far reaching trolley road connections. The conditions, altogether, invite a record breaking attendance.

Free rural delivery costs the Government a great deal of money, and it is worth all it costs. But why should the postal authorities assume that it is rural delivery which causes the postoffice department to fall short of funds. The cities are given far more frequent and costly service than are the country districts, even with the free delivery; the department hires special mail cars and pays outrageously high rents for them to the railroads. Salaries of employees are continually being increased. A man who found that payment of his just dues was interfering with his extravagant outlay in other directions would not reasonably blame his creditors for the shortage. The rural mail service was no more than the just due of the heavily taxed, but long-neglected farmers. The service should not only be kept up, but should be steadily improved and extended, even if the result should be to curtail the excessive postal profits of the railroads.

The movement to place fuel alcohol on the untaxed list is arousing a somewhat unexpected opposition. In certain countries of Europe alcohol, after a treatment which renders it unfit for mixture with drinks, is allowed to be made without the revenue tax, thus affording a supply of cheap fuel of great use for domestic heating and lighting purposes, farm power, etc., besides affording a considerable market for potatoes from which the cheap alcohol is chiefly made. The proposition to establish a similar business in this country has aroused the opposition of manufacturers of certain articles in which taxed alcohol is now used. They have a kind of monopoly and fear the cheap alcohol would interfere with their business. The manufacturers of alcohol from wood are also interested, as the new source of alcohol would also interfere with their product. There are few arguments to be brought forward other than those of self-interest of such manufacturing concerns, and the interest of farmers is clearly in the direction of an enlarged market for certain agricultural products, and for a new, safe and cheap fuel, of special value to those who live at a distance from the supply of gas and electric light, and who do not like to use gasoline or other explosive liquids.

Taking Out Castings. Silage should always be taken from the top, and care should be exercised to keep the surface as nearly level as possible. The more nearly level the surface of the silage is kept the less it will freeze in winter and the less it will mould in warm weather. While these principles have been repeated over and over again in silo literature, they have been unheeded by many silo users and much silage has in consequence spoiled, or other more serious trouble has followed. In taking out silage a large fork with tines close together should be used and the silage carefully skimmed off the top to a depth of two inches each day. Do not thrust the fork down into the silage five or six inches, as though you were pitching manure. Do not loosen up more silage than you take out.

To prevent freezing put the top door back in place as soon as the second door is opened and put each succeeding door back in place as soon as the next below is opened, and as soon as cold weather sets in hang a heavy blanket over the door that is being used. Have the roof tight and keep all ventilators or former windows in the roof closed in cold weather. If this practice is followed serious freezing can

be prevented in almost any silo. On the other hand, if all doors and windows are left open, any kind of silo is apt to freeze in Wisconsin waters. No amount of insulation and no number of dead air spaces will prevent freezing when the silo is open at the top.

The Apple Average. The apple business from its very nature is subject to wide variations for the reason that, unlike crops planted annually, the output cannot be quickly changed to suit the demand. Mother Nature chiefly decides whether the crop of this year or next year or the year after shall be a large, overabundant one, or small enough to create actual scarcity in the markets.

However the grower may feel in regard to the profits he is not likely to cut down his good orchards. Neither, on the other hand, will his increased tree planting affect the supply until many years in the future, when the conditions may have changed which induced him to set the trees. The price of apples is something of a lottery any one year. They may be almost unsaleable or they may be the subject of brisk competition among the buyers at high prices.

In years of heavy production there always arises a host of newspaper writers who declare that the apple business is a failure due to death by Western competition, and so it does appear during such seasons. Other years, when the supply is short, there will be just as many prophets who will chant another song, asserting the gradual extinction of the commercial apple and urging everybody to plant more trees.

Both kinds of talk have been going on for at least half a century. The author of a leading agricultural work published in 1854 bewails therein the excess of apple orchards. Millions of trees have been planted since, but apples sell higher than ever when the crop is short and times prosperous. To all appearances the future will be like the past. There will be more years of cheap apples, and likewise years when prices will soar. No patient, industrious grower need become discouraged over the average from year to year, neither is there much basis for hopes of fortune making in apple culture. It is simply a fairly good business prospect, promising well in the long run, but requiring good management and something more than "patience and trees" to insure success.

Commendable is the attitude of those who, like Mr. Miller of "Hilltop Fruit Farming," make sure of ideal conditions at the start, and then push steadily forward with their far-sighted plans for profitable orcharding. Those who succeed with apples are neither plungers nor quitters, but rather those who attempt only what they may reasonably expect to carry out well and then stick to it regardless of temporary conditions of the industry.

The Rat Nuisance.

Suggestions for killing rats are numerous. Probably no plan is so satisfactory as to keep half a dozen cats around the barns and farm buildings. The dog should be trained to let them alone and the cats should be given just enough food to keep them alert for more game. The drawback is that cats are liable to become fond of chickens, and some of them will need watching during the chicken season.

Terrier dogs are useful if the buildings are so arranged that they can get at the rats under the floors. Where rats are extremely plenty a terrier will do good work, but in the long run, the patience and steady work of a cat will more thoroughly exterminate the rats.

Poison will kill quite a number of the rats, although many of them avoid it, but there is danger of other animals getting the poisoned food and the dead rats are liable to become a nuisance.

Traps are useful to a certain extent but will not exterminate the rats because there is always a certain per cent. of the rats which are too smart to be caught in this way. Ferrets have been tried with good success, but require some skill and attention in using them. A trained ferret and an experienced rat catcher in charge will often rid the premises in a short time, although at considerable expense. A large hungry, vigorous cat, after all, is the main reliance on the farm.

Bound for the West.

Co-operation on a large scale is proposed by the Lithuanians of Chicago. There are about ten thousand of them, and they have formed themselves into a society to settle a large amount of territory in the State of Washington, each member putting in \$100. This will not be a large drain on any person, but the combined payments will aggregate \$1,000,000, which will be devoted to creating farms and towns in the land chosen for the experiment in the Columbia River Valley.

The establishment of extensive colonies on a combination basis is practically new in this country, though we have had communities of various kinds for some time, and it remains to be seen whether the Lithuanians have enough business ability to carry out their somewhat expansive scheme. To be sure, in the early settlements of this country there were companies to forward them, but individual effort was not discouraged, and many preferred to help their own way without the support of an association.

The advantage of a combination is, of course, the opportunity it furnishes for carrying out a project that would fail if it were attempted by a single person, and as the Lithuanians are credited with being prudent, industrious and economical, there is every reason to believe that their society will not fail to realize the hopes of its promoters. The New York Mail is of the opinion that the limit of practical individual settlement on the lands of the West has been reached, and that properly to exploit a forty-acre irrigated plot requires a capital of \$500, but through combination of a number of persons this may be done for less. Irrigation of great tracts in the West, it tells us, will not of itself relieve the congestion in our cities, because a man who can raise only \$100 cannot make the start on irrigated land.

It is hardly to be expected that the example of the Chicago Lithuanians will be followed in Eastern cities, for it is doubtful if there are enough united dwellers in them of any nationality to join in helping to form a co-operative settlement, even if the irrigation laws have the development of Western areas that have been parched with heat. It is rather an alluring prospect that is presented to the mind in considering that we may get rid of surplus populations by telling them to go West, but will they take our advice? Will they form societies for the purpose of following our counsels? Hardly. And in the meanwhile, we have plenty of farms and towns that might be made prosperous, if people were not so fond of metropolitan lights and sounds. Improvement should begin at home. Never-

theless the Lithuanians have our praises for trying to get out of Chicago.

Then and Now.

Our British cousins are apt to look upon the United States as a very wicked country when the subject of bribery is considered, and, indeed, it has many sins connected with this subject to answer for, but in the past England, the mother country, was none too scrupulous about the bribing of the electorate, according to the Nineteenth Century and The Argonaut. It is said that William Wilberforce, famous as a leader in the movement for the abolition of slavery in the English colonies, paid \$45,000 to the electorate of Hull, the town where he was born. The usual price in Cashel of a vote was \$100, and this among the constituency which returned Sir Robert Peel in 1800. The rate was advanced to \$200 when a sermon was preached against bribery, because the electors reasoned that if they were to be condemned eternally for taking the lesser sum, they might as well pocket the larger one, on the principle, we suppose, that one might as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb.

They had rather an ingenious way, too, of whipping the devil around the stump, for it was often the custom to pay to voters fancy prizes for cheap articles, or to sell to them valuable ones for the proverbial song. In Sandbury, in an election in 1826, two cabbages were purchased from a green grocer by a candidate, and these succulent vegetables cost him fifty dollars, and in becoming the possessor of a plate of gooseberries through the same hand he depleted his wallet to the amount of \$125.

At Great Marlow an elector was allowed to come into possession of a sow and a litter of nine pigs for just one penny, no more, no less. The great Sheridan, statesman, orator and dramatist, bought peas for \$12 a quart during the election of 1794. The author of the "School for Scandal" was an extravagant person and a high liver, but his prodigality would hardly have extended to paying that price if he had not had some object in view rather than the satisfying of his epicurean desires. The philanthropic Earl of Shaftesbury in the election of 1831 expended \$75,000, of which \$60,000 was used in providing the electorate with free drinks at various public houses. In trying to win a seat in Parliament vast sums were spent, and it was seriously argued during the debate on the Reform Bill that a vote was private property, and to secure it from a man without compensation was as much robbery as to deprive a fund holder of his dividends. They have reformed all this in England through stringent legislation. Absolute political purity is a thing of slow growth, but when England points to America as irredeemably corrupt, she is, in the light of history, somewhat in the position of the pot that called the kettle black. Bribery does not pertain to any particular people. They had it in imperial Rome, but that is no reason, of course, why we should not follow England's example and get rid of it as speedily as possible.

Peace Prospects.

The reception of Prince Louis of Battenberg in Washington and New York, officially and otherwise, is, perhaps, a better promise of the universal peace that we are looking for among all civilized nations than any indication of amity among nations that has been presented. He is through blood closely associated with both Germany and Russia, and his affiliations with England are of the most intimate character. He represents here the British nationality and in a naval capacity, and personally he is a winning and manly character.

He comes with a squadron, to be sure, but that does not signalize war, but only that the Empire of Great Britain and India is able to protect itself from all foreign assaults by sea, thus setting an example to the United States in preserving its dignity as a naval power. These two great nations should rule the seas, and thus prevent ambitious countries of smaller resources from attempting to provoke a contest.

We shall not gain peace by dismantling our forts or by letting our national docks lie idle, but by intimidating the quarrelsome by a display of strength that they will not dare to test. Thus arbitration may be promoted and bloodshed averted. There is always a great cry here about the expense of the army and navy, but we might as well find fault with the maintenance of the police as a preventive measure.

Prince Louis of Battenberg, in his addresses to both American and British entertainers, has shown solid sense. He has in no instance stopped over, and in this he has shown much of the judgment of Edward VII. In his public speeches, this monarch, by the way, visited our shores as the Prince of Wales in 1901, and though he was only a boy then he exhibited much of the amiability and freedom from ostentation which has since distinguished him, in spite of some of the shortcomings from which no mortal is free. He celebrated his genuine sixty-fourth birthday last Thursday with his usual informality, though his feeling between this important province and the home government.

So the peace spirit grows, and that France is fraternally united with England at present was significantly exhibited in the fact that a French fleet celebrated the victory of Admiral Nelson at Trafalgar. The relations between France and America are of the most cordial character, and we can see no good reason why this trinity of nations cannot control the world in the interests of peace. It surely is a consummation most devoutly to be wished.

Caring Names on the Farm.

According to the directions of the Bureau of Animal Industry, when the meat is cooked rub each piece with salt and allow it to stand over night. Then pack it in a barrel with the hams and shoulders in the bottom, using the strips of bacon to fill in between or to put on top. Weigh out for each one hundred pounds of meat eight pounds of salt, two pounds of brown sugar and two ounces of saltpetre. Dissolve all in four gallons of water, and cover the meat with the brine. For summer use it will be safe to boil the brine before using. In that case it should be thoroughly cooled before it is used. For winter curing it is not necessary to boil the brine. Bacon strips should remain in this brine four to six weeks, hams six to eight weeks. This is a standard recipe, and has given the best of satisfaction. Hams and bacon cured in the spring will keep right through the summer after they are smoked. The meat will be sweet and the flavor will be good. Pickled and cured meats are smoked to aid in their preservation and to give flavor and palatability. The cures formed by the combination of the wood cures the pores, to some extent excluding the air and is objectionable to insects.

The smokehouse should be tight or ten feet high to give the best results and of a

size suited to the amount of meat likely to be smoked. One six by eight feet will be large enough for ordinary farm use. Ample ventilation should be provided to carry off the warm air in order to prevent over-heating the meat. Small openings under the eaves or a chimney in the roof will be sufficient if arranged so as to be easily controlled. A freest outside of the house proper, with a fine through which the smoke may be conducted to the meat chamber, gives the best conditions for smoking. When this cannot well be arranged a fire may be built on the floor of the house and the meat shielded by a sheet of metal. Where the meat can be hung six or seven feet above the fire this precaution need not be taken. The construction should be such as to allow the smoke to pass up freely over the meat and out of the house, though rapid circulation is at the expense of fuel.

Brick or stone houses are the best, though the first cost is greater than if they are built of lumber. Large dry goods boxes and even barrels may be made to serve as smokehouses, where only small amounts of meat are to be smoked. The care of meat in such substitutes is so much more difficult and the results are so much less satisfactory that a permanent place should be provided if possible. The best fuel for smoking meats is green hickory or maple-wood, smothered with sawdust of the same material. Hard wood of any kind is preferable to soft wood. Resinous woods should never be used, as they are likely to impart bad flavors to the product. Corncocks are the best substitute and may be used if desired. Soft wood and corncocks give off large amounts of carbon in burning, and this is deposited on the meat, making it dark in color and rank flavored. Juniper berries and fragrant woods are sometimes added to the fire to flavor the meat.

Meat that is to be smoked should be removed from the brine two or three days before being put in the smokehouse. If it has been cured in a strong brine it will be best to soak the pieces in cold water over night to prevent a crust of salt from forming on the outside when drained. Washing the meat in tepid water and scrubbing clean with a brush is in good practice. The pieces should then be hung up to drain for a day or two. When drained they may be hung in the house. All should be suspended below the ventilators and should hang so that no two pieces come in contact, as this would prevent uniform smoking.

A slow fire may then be started, warming up the meat gradually. During the winter months in cold climates it is best to keep the fire going continually until the smoking is complete, holding the temperature at about the same point. If the fire is allowed to die down the meat becomes cold and the smoke does not penetrate readily. This results in heavy smoke on the outside and very little on the inner portions of the meat.

The Apple Average.

The ice crop of the coming season is looming up as a matter of consideration. A place to keep it need not cost much, good sawdust packing for the ice being the main essential, while any farmer can borrow a saw and ice works and harvest his own supply. Enough ice for household purposes can be kept in any convenient corner of the barn or other building, the corner being partitioned off with rough lumber and the floor fixed to provide enough drainage. The walls should be packed with hay and sawdust.

Sometimes an old silo can be spared for the ice-house, and if made with double walls it will keep the ice exceedingly well. Underground structures of any kind are not so desirable for ice, but an old cement silo boarded up to form an air space can be used provided there is drainage for the waste water. A season's supply of ice stored by some such simple plan would scarcely be felt as an item of expense. Forty tons of ice should be cut from a surface thirty-eight feet square, where the ice is a foot thick, hence no great space is needed to cut from. A neighborhood supply of ice can be provided by co-operation as about four men working together are required to harvest to the best advantage. Now that quick cooling of the milk is considered so important, every producer needs plenty of ice.

A Rival of Fresh Milk.


Large quantities of dried milk are made in New Zealand, where milk is very cheap, and the product is beginning to appear in the markets of Europe in the form of powder, which when mixed with eight to nine times its bulk of water gives a mixture about like fresh milk. The New Zealand government has taken considerable interest in the product, and is looking after the details, with the result that the milk powder seems to be of uniform and reliable quality and likely to meet with favor.

An English chemist has been experimenting with the new preparation, and finds that it possesses certain advantages, being uniform in composition and free from germs, while the fat which it contains is more digestible than that of ordinary cream because the process of making the powder reduces the fatty particles to a fine granular condition, very much the same as in butter, and it is found that some people who cannot digest rich milks can successfully use the milk powder. The mixture has been used successfully in feeding infants, and is claimed to have some advantages over the fresh milk as commonly sold in cities. It is quite possible that in milk powder may be developed an important rival to the fresh milk product.

Showing Prize Apples.

To receive awards amid the severe competition which prevails at the principal exhibitions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society requires something more than apples, courage and good fortune. The old timers were much of their success to a painstaking attention to details all through the season from blossom to show tables. But, notwithstanding their best effort, new comers now and then surprise the veterans and carry off numerous prizes. Thus at the exhibition this month several first prizes in apples were captured by E. E. Cole, a member of the firm of Shepard, Norwell Company, and it is noticed that of sixteen plates of fruit shown by Mr. Cole during the society's recent exhibition, thirteen plates were awarded premiums, his continued high percentage of success attracting some notice. Mr. Cole owns a home orchard of young trees at his country place in Seaboard. The trees were set only ten years ago, but are bearing considerable fruit of the choice varieties, including McIntosh, Northern Spy, Gravenstein, Lady Siree, Baldwin and Greenings.

"I could take no pleasure in poor fruit. I would rather raise a bushel of good apples than ten bushels of common quality," remarked Mr. Cole, and this high standard of excellence is doubtless at the foundation of success in amateur fruit raising.



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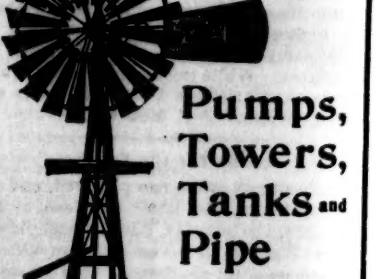
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ing, as it is in most other directions. The trees receive the best of care from the start. They are outwitted like any other crop, pruned and sprayed, and the fruit is carefully thinned, about one-half of the apples having been removed in July.

This exhibitor disclaims any special skill in preparing exhibits, but evidently he has almost unconsciously picked up a useful method. He attends personally to each exhibit. The apples are carried, carefully packed in paper, in baskets, and are handled with extreme care. In arranging them on the plates much attention is paid to uniformity, and he finds that a plate of specimens all alike in size, shape and color, wins over a plate which, at first glance, seems poor, but contains one or two specimens not like the others on the plate or which show coarseness in shape or bad coloring.

Our farms in this State number about 29,400, and in addition to all other domestic animals we now have about 130,000 dairy cows. We have on an average about twenty-three cows for each one of the 5000 square miles of farming land in the State.

—Prof. Ivan C. Weld, Coos County, N. H.







## Our Homes.

## The Workshop.

Two skeins of dark blue German knitting yarn, 1 skein white, 1 pair steel knitting needles No. 10.

This cap is made in broche. Begin by casting on 100 stitches with blue.

1st row—1 slip 1 (\*) thread front of needle, slip the next stitch as if about to seam and with the thread still in front knit 1 plain. Repeat from (\*). In the return row always knit the stitch and the thread laid over it together, then throw thread forward and slip the next as in purling. These two rows form the entire pattern. Knit 2 rows of blue, then 2 of white, 2 of blue, 2 white, 2 blue, 2 white, and then continue with the blue wool until the piece is fourteen inches long. Then knit 1 plain, purl 1 alternately back and forth for three inches more.

Bind off and draw together at the top and sew up sides. Finish the top with cord and tassel of the two shades of wool. Turn the cap up two or three inches at bottom for a finish. This broche stitch is pretty for women's sweaters. EVA M. NILES.

## The Complexion.

Among the very best measures are the Turkish or Russian bath. Anything to induce free perspiration is of great use in clearing the skin if the pores have been clogged. Then continued care is needed that they are kept free from dust or the deposits of perspiration. The face should be washed every day in tepid water, and dried with a very soft linen cloth. Nothing is more injurious to a delicate skin than the rubbing and scratching with coarse towels. A paste made of rye flour and linseed meal is one of the very best applications for clearing the complexion. It must be made thick, and applied as a mask, and worn for fourteen hours without removing. If worn every night for ten nights there will be a wonderful change in the appearance. One can well afford to make extra long nights for the sake of securing a good complexion. When the paste is removed the face must be well washed with a little cold cream, which is excellent when made as follows: Spermaceti, five hundred grammes; pure wax, one hundred grammes; oil of sweet almonds, five hundred grammes; rose water, fifty grammes. Put the wax and spermaceti into a vessel placed in a kettle of boiling water; stir them gently until melted. Pour the mixture into a marble mortar, and allow it to become cool. Then stir it gently for an hour, add six drops of essence of roses, and beat the mass until it is perfectly smooth and white. Applied to the face after bathing or exposure to the sun, this cream has a very soothing and healing effect.

## Grinding Tea into Powder.

"History tells us that when coffee was first brought to the cities of western Europe," says a writer in the London Times, "the first makers of it were Turks. They roasted and ground the berries and served the liquor as it is served to this day in the East—grits and all. We still drink coffee as we drank it then, with this difference, that we mostly omit the grits and drink the infusion instead of a decoction. It was not so with tea. No Chinaman was imported with the first pound of tea to teach us how to make and drink it. The consequence has been that we have never drunk tea in the Chinese way—that is, as a simple infusion.

"At first there seems to have been great doubt as how to deal with the new herb. It is even said that it was sometimes boiled, with salt and butter, and served up as a sort of spinach. The old phrase, 'a dish of tea,' seems to bear out this legend. Finally it came to be settled that the most wholesome and pleasant way to treat the tea leaf was to make it into a kind of sweet soup, with sugar and milk or cream. I have personal knowledge of no country in Europe but one where tea is used as in China—Portugal, which got its knowledge of tea-making from a province of China, with which, at that time, no other nation of Europe was in contact.

"It was while traveling on horseback with a guide in the wilder parts of Portugal, away from the shops and inns, where we had perforce to make experiments in the most economical use of the few ounces of tea and coffee that we could afford to carry with us, that we hit upon a discovery. Having no milk, we drank our tea, as most Portuguese drink theirs, as a simple infusion, sweetened with sugar.

"I remembered to have read, I believe in the travels of the Abbe Hue, that when the Chinese desire to be thrifty in the use of the finer and more expensive teas, they grind the leaf to powder and use less for the infusion. We found that tea could be ground in a coffee mill as easily as coffee; that tea made with the powder is as good as or better than when made with the whole leaf, and that the powder, as it naturally would, goes further than the tea leaf."

## Curious Foods.

Among civilized nations the variety of tastes attracts but little attention. The vegetarians and the meat eaters each have their followers, and a recent school advocates less food and fewer meals, while there are countless fads for the delectation of the hungry.

That civilized man has missed some of the most toothsome dainties goes without saying, and it is evident that prejudice enters very largely into this. Thus, in California, the best fish, it is said, is the sculpin, but in the East this fish goes begging on account of its disagreeable appearance. In Arizona Indian children may be seen catching ants and eating them; and in Mexico the honey ant is eagerly sought after by the natives, who eat the well rounded currant-like abdomen. In South America the large lizard, the iguana, is a delicacy, not to speak of the larger snakes, which in taste are like chicken. The ordinary rattlesnake, it is said, is very good eating if one can overcome the inborn prejudice.

Americans are inclined to regard the Chinese as a race of rat eaters and denounce the animal as unclean, at the same time consuming tons yearly of the most loathsome of all animals—the hog. The rat is careful of his toilet, cleaning itself constantly; but the hog is the only animal of so called intelligence that revels in filth and prefers it to cleanliness. The common skunk, owing to its peculiar and offensive glands, will never be popular as food, yet its flesh is not only good, but delicious, according to various connoisseurs who have eaten it.

That insects do not enter more into the food supplies of nations is due to prejudice. Grasshoppers are eaten by some Western tribes. Ground up, they make a

meal that is said to be both nourishing and agreeable. Many a white man has passed through a country, believing himself nearly starving, as large game was not to be had, when worms and various insects were at hand. During the flight of locusts Indians sometimes collect them in bags, wash them and cook them for a meal.

The most singular food, in all probability, is the larva of a fly common in certain portions of California, and known as ephydra. This insect is found in such vast quantities in Lake Mono, California, that it is washed up on the shores in vast windrows, and can be collected by baskets. The water of Mono is very singular, like oil, so much so that it resists ordinary wind and refuses to become ruffled. When the larvae begin to appear the Indians gather from far and near and scrape them up, place the wormlike creatures on cloths and racks in the sun and dry them, when they are beaten up and husked, looking then like rice. The Indians call the food koo-chah-bee, and many bushels are collected at this time, that the larvae are nutritious is shown by the condition of the Indians, who soon grow fat on the rich diet. Many birds are attracted by the larvae and gorge themselves with the singular food.

On Lake Texcoco in Mexico a curious fly is found which also is eaten by the natives and known as ahuali; the eggs of the insect, which are deposited on sedges, are also collected and eaten for food. On Lake Chalco a certain sedge is cultivated on which the eggs of a species of fly are deposited. Bundles are made of these and placed in Lake Texcoco for the purpose, and, when covered, the sedge is beaten over pieces of cloth and the eggs secured. These are collected and ground into a meal, also called ahuali, and are in great demand on fast days, when fish is required, the insects of eggs not being considered flesh, as they come from the water. The food is made into small cakes and tastes not unlike caviare. Not only the eggs, but the larvae, themselves a disagreeable looking worm, are used as food under the name of puxi.

The civilized man, perhaps, turns from such food with disgust, but it is well to remember that epizoots in many countries, and especially in England and America, are particularly fond of cheese when inhabited by the larvae of a very common fly. In the United States the large octopus, or squid, common on the Pacific Coast, offends the American palate, but the Italian, Frenchman or Portuguese eats it with avidity and considers it a delicacy. The meat is clear and white, like chicken, and has the flavor of crab.

The question of national tastes is an interesting one, and the contrast between those of China and America is remarkable. The objects displayed in the Chinese quarters as dainties are often repugnant to Americans. We find the Chinese eating eggs of unknown age, especially duck eggs containing ducklings ready to be hatched. Shark fins—a tough, disagreeable food—are in demand, while deer horns in the velvet and lizards of various kinds are eaten. The nest of the swallow, with its embedded secretion of the mouth glands of the bird, is nearly worth its weight in gold. Trepan, the tough, impossible holothurian, is eaten, and its collection is an important industry along the Malay coast, valued at least \$100,000 per annum.

In France the sea anemone is used as food; stuffed like peppers and boiled it calls for much crab or crayfish. The cochins of various species is also used, cooked in the shell, like an egg, and then eaten with a spoon. In nearly all the old countries of Europe of the type of Spain and Italy the poor are so poor that everything in the nature of food is utilized. Absolutely nothing is wasted and meat is rare. The writer recalls the surprise of an Italian fisherman, who landed in California after a trip around the Horn, and was amazed, not at the country, but with the abundance of food. He found his countrymen eating meat twice, perhaps three times a day, when he rarely had it once a month. He saw hundreds of pounds of fish wasted and discarded merely because the people did not care for it, when in Italy even the heads would be boiled and eaten. He saw big tinsels towed out to sea and thrown away because they were tough, when in his own land every scrap of this fish was saved. America was indeed the land of plenty to the poor of other nations.

Certain Indians consider earthworms a dainty. They are dried and rolled together into a peculiar floor. In Bahama and some of the Florida keys the conch is eaten—by far the toughest food known; more like Indian rubber than anything else, having to be beaten and pounded before it can be masticated or even cooked.—Scientific American.

## Dangers of the Lean Meat Diet.

Practical experience, as well as theoretical considerations, lead to the conclusion that a lean-meat diet, continued for any great length of time, is incompatible with the highest health. For example, the leading medical teachers in France have for several years been sounding the note of warning against the use of an exclusive meat diet in diabetes, a disease for which lean meat was formerly supposed to be not only highly essential, but almost a panacea. A close study of the history of the disease has shown, however, that an exclusive meat diet is not infrequently a cause of death, through the accumulation of so great a quantity of uric acid in the body that the overworked kidneys are unable to cope with them.

Physiological facts which are known today fully justify the statement that a person subsisting upon a lean-meat diet, however comfortable he may be, however much relieved from various digestive inconveniences to which he may have been previously subject, is nevertheless in a pathological state, and one which is vastly more serious than the conditions which ordinarily arise from the simple fermentation or souring of saccharine or farinaceous foods in the stomach.

The acids developed by such fermentations are irritating, and produce more or less disturbance, local and reflex; nevertheless, the ultimate effects are by no means so formidable as those of the insidious but far-reaching and tissue changing poisons which accumulate in the body as the result of a lean-meat diet. The truth seems to be that a person subsisting upon a lean meat diet, while he may manifest a greater amount of strength than upon a more natural dietary, and may be unconscious of any abnormal condition, is like a person in a powder magazine—he is in constant danger of vital catastrophe. The poison-producing action of his liver and the poison-eliminating capacity of his kidneys are taxed to their utmost to keep the proportion of poisons and uric acid in the tissue down to a point which permits of the performance of the vital functions. The margin of safety, which nature has wisely made very large in order

to provide for emergencies, is reduced to the narrowest possible limit, so that anything which temporarily interferes with the functions of the liver or the kidneys, or which imposes additional work upon them, may be sufficient to obliterate the safety margin and produce an attack of grave or fatal disease.

Invasion of the body by ptomaine-producing microbes, such as the typhoid bacillus, the bacillus of diphtheria, the pneumococcus of Friedlander, the shocker resulting from accident, and even the depression of a severe cold, may be sufficient to consume the meagre emergency capital, and the result is acute inflammation of the kidneys, or death under chloroform or from shock following an operation under anesthesia.

It is evidently the duty of the physician who places his patient upon a lean meat diet to inform him of the fact that under such a dietary he is living close to the border line, that his situation is like that of a man walking on the brink of a precipice, that he must on no account submit himself to the influence of an anesthetic without first undergoing a few days preparation, including an entire change of diet; and the truly wise physician will further instruct his patient that however a lean meat diet may be considered as a temporary expedient, it cannot be safely adopted as a continuous dietary without the risk of constitutional degradation and injury.—Health.

## Housework as Physical Culture.

There is nothing like housework for physical culture. In the various complex movements performed by the different sets of muscles during the innumerable evolutions incidental to housework we have an admirable system of gymnastics peculiarly adapted to the needs of women. A certain amount of exercise which arouses and interests the mental faculties while occupying the activities of the bodily organs is necessary to health and housework undoubtedly complies with both of these conditions. In many a household the daughters take their share of the lighter branches of the work, but in many another establishment dusting is considered undignified, polishing piebald, and bed-making a bore, and so the womenfolk leave the work to hired hands, while they amuse themselves as so-called physical culture classes, where, perhaps, they beat the air with Indian clubs, a form of exercise considered more dignified, if less useful, than beating carpets with rattan canes.

## Japanese Marriage Laws.

Although Japan has revealed herself as highly enlightened in so many spheres of civilization, she has not yet applied reformatory principles to the institution of marriage.

There is as yet no such thing in Japan as equality between the sexes. The law relating to marriage recognizes no wrong except on the part of the wife, from whom the husband may obtain a divorce by merely asserting that he is tired of her, or upon any of the following grounds:

Disobedience, adultery, barrenness, jealousy, physical antipathy, talkativeness or theft.

When a girl is about to marry, her mother impresses upon her various rules of conduct to be followed during her wedded life. Some of these are:

"Be always amiable to your mother-in-law and father-in-law."

"Don't talk much."

"Get up early, go to bed late, and never sleep in the afternoon."

"Until you are fifty, never mix in crowds."

"Do not consult fortune tellers."

"Do not wear light clothes."

"Be humble and polite."

"Never allow yourself to be jealous."

"Even if your husband is in the wrong, never get angry."

"Never speak evil of your neighbors."

"Strict obedience to a husband is a wife's noblest virtue."—Harper's Weekly.

## Domestic Hints.

**TOMATO BUTTER.**

Boil and skin ripe tomatoes, add a quarter of the quantity of pared, cored and quartered pleasant sour apples. Weigh the kettle, put in the tomatoes and apples, and cook to the consistency of marmalade, then to every six pounds add a teaspoonful of ginger, the juice of a large lemon and four pounds of light brown sugar; boil fifteen minutes or until it will spread smoothly.

**RAISIN CRIDDLE CAKE.**

Into a cup of sour milk and the same amount of sweet milk stir two cupfuls of wheat flour and one-half cupful of cornmeal, a teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter, a teaspoonful of soda and one-half cupful of chopped raisins. Lastly beat in two eggs and have the griddle, on which the cakes are to be cooked, as hot as possible without burning.

**STICED WAFERS.**

Cream together two-thirds of a cupful of butter and 12 cupfuls of confectioners' sugar; add one-half tablespoonful each of ground ginger and cinnamon and just a dash of ground cloves. Stir into the mixture one-half cupful of cold water and two cupfuls of flour, sifted twice. Roll to water thickness, cut into shapes and bake in a very moderate oven.

**BARANZA PIE.**

Free enough bananas from skin and cores threads to fill a cup when the pulp is pressed through a sieve or ricer. To the pulp add a beaten egg, one-half cupful of sugar, one cracker, powdered rice, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-third of a teaspoonful of cinnamon, two tablespoonfuls of molasses, one third of a cupful of cream, and one-half cupful of milk; mix thoroughly, and bake until firm in a pie pan lined with pastry as for squash pie.

**POTATOES AU GRATIN.**

One cupful of sliced buttered potatoes, one-half cupful of cracker crumbs, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter and one-half of a cupful of cheese. Put layers of each, potatoes and crumbs,

## THOROUGHBRED ANGORA KITTY.

As raised by the Walnut Ridge Farms, Boston, Mass.

In a buttered baking dish, cover with crumbs, pour over a cupful of milk or white sauce, and bake twenty minutes in a moderate oven.

## Hints to Housekeepers.

Never allow a cake of fat to remain on the top of soups and stews. It makes them turn sour more quickly than they otherwise would.

How many women adhere to the old-fashioned method of marking linen with a new steel pen and marking ink? It is the simplest thing in the world to mark linen with a stencil and a brush. Each member of the family should have his own stencil, which does not cost much if only initials are used. The boy or girl at school will need the full name, which costs more. An entire wardrobe may be marked in half an hour's time by means of stencils, and the danger of the ink spreading is reduced to a minimum.

Carrots and turnips will keep for weeks, if not months if placed in layers in a box of sand.

A good way to keep silver bright that is in daily use is to place it in hot borax water occasionally and allow it to stand an hour or two; rinse with clear hot water, and then wipe with a clean, dry towel.

One of the annoyances of cleaning fluids is their invariable habit of leaving a ring around the cleaned spot. An authority says that the proper way to avoid this is to draw a ring around the spot with the gasoline before rubbing the spot itself. There are several good cleaning fluids on the market which are said to be non-explosive. If gasoline is preferred, let it never be used but by the most responsible and careful person in the house.

A most useful article with which to scale fish is the ordinary currycomb. Grasp the fish by the mouth by a protected finger, and the operation, pursued from tail to head, will be found very practical.

A handsome gray dress shirt had on it a smear of black railroad grease, which did not yield at all to ordinary cleaning. So kerosene was used, the wet spot being afterwards covered with fuller's earth and left to dry, but there remained still some of the black stain. A pain the kerosene was vigorously applied, followed by the fuller's earth, as before, and the result was all one could wish. It was impossible to see where the spot had been, and it never came back, as grease spots are prone to do.

The scrappings of a jam pot (about one tablespoonful), if heated, with the addition of two teaspoonfuls of hot water and the same of lemon juice, make excellent sauce for a boiled pudding.

Oak is darkened for decorative purposes by fuming with ammoniated vapor.

## Gems of Thought.

.... Let you come to fusing about your soul, give it once for all to Christ and occupy yourself chiefly with Him. Keep near Him so that His Spirit can seize you and color you to His mind. Christ ought to be a more vivid concern to you than anything you do in Christ's name.—F. J. Forsyth.

.... Courage is just strength of heart; and the strong heart makes itself felt everywhere, and lifts up the whole of life, and ennobles it, and makes it more directly to its chosen aim.—Henry Van Dyke.

.... "I cannot sweep the darkness out, but I can shine it out," said John Newton. We cannot sweep darkness out of the church, but we can shine it out. If we accuse the church of having the pneumonia, let us who are individual cells in that church breathe deeply and wait patiently and pray believingly, and one after another of the obstructed cells will open to the Spirit and convalescence is re-established in every part.—A. J. Gordon.

.... "Home-keeping means a study into things strange and complex, an inquiry into the greatest questions of life. Here under one roof cluster a little circle of wonderful beings—human beings. They are quite different ones from some others. Each has his own little ways. Some are thought to be most 'peculiar,' though, if the truth were known, some good cause lies underneath it all. And some are fond of this, and some of that. Yet, here they must live, and live in harmony, just as colors must blend and contrast to give joy—for the home must be the centre of joy, else it is not really 'home.'"

.... Give me three hundred men, give me one hundred men with a passion for the salvation of this city, and I will answer for it, Boston shall be saved.—Phillips Brooks.

.... If a man will not let good into his life, evil will and must possess it. If he would eject evil from his life, he can only do so by letting good into it.—Henry Drummond.

.... It is a good and safe rule to sojourn in every place as if you meant to spend your life there, never omitting an opportunity of doing a kindness or speaking a true word or making a friend.—John Ruskin.

.... Empty hours, empty hands, empty comfort, empty words, empty hearts drawn in evil spirits, as a vacuum draws in air.—Willis Arnold.

## Popular Science.

Acetylene lighting is quickly gaining favor, and the German Acetylene Association feels that the gas is supplied the public by seventy

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five places in Germany, 200 in the United States, sixteen in the United Kingdom and nineteen in the British colonies, while Germany alone has seventy-five thousand private installations.

Airship travel seems to be already popular. *W. de Forville* estimates that seven or eight hundred balloons voyage annually, and states that the members of the French Aero Club alone made more than two hundred last year. The forms and colors of the clouds, the brightness, and the new views of the earth give a wonderful charm to sky automobilism. This is in evidence at night, and Camille Flammarion, whose wedding trip was made in a balloon, has expressed his surprise at the splendor of the lights of a great city—in this case Paris—as well as at the brilliancy of the constellations. The number of the stars is unbelievable, the dog star becomes as bright as Venus, while some of the nebulae appear like gas jets. The shooting stars are terrifying. Their explosions seem to be heard, and this may be really true, as the balloons sets like a gigantic car trumpet, and catches such earthly sounds as the whistling of locomotives and barking of dogs. Hygienically the complete renewal of the air in the lungs is a delightful sensation.

## COMPETITION IN POTATOES.

Consul Mahler of Nottingham, England, reports the results of a potato-growing competition held in Derbyshire last season. Two pounds of Duchess of Cornwall seed were supplied to each member of the Hallam Fields Garden Association. Prizes were given for the largest crop and for best quality. The first prize winner succeeded in raising 122 pounds of potatoes from his two pounds of seed, cut into forty-one sets. The time of cultivation was 140 days. The average weight per set was 3.21 pounds, the proportion of increase being sixty-six to one. The second-prize winner raised 122 pounds, and the third 121 pounds, the remainder of the competitors failing behind by stages of ten pounds until twenty-six pounds was reached as the lowest weight. The average of the whole competition was 70 pounds from two pounds of seed. The greatest produce was equal to forty-three tons per acre. The combined product of the twenty-eight competitors was equivalent to 251.3 tons per acre. Ten tons per acre is generally considered a good yield. The average yield of the seven hundred thousand acres of potato fields in England is six tons per acre.

## FERTILE MANCHURIA.

Manchuria is evidently a very fertile country notwithstanding the unfavorable impressions which may have been gathered from the war reports of the severity of the Manchurian winters. Judging by its products, the climate is temperate and the soil of the level regions is exceedingly rich and fertile. Among the chief products are millet, Indian corn and wheat. Apples and grapes flourish; tomatoes and other vegetables can be grown in great abundance. These products indicate a climate like that of central United States, known as the corn belt. The production of millet seed is enormous, and in the export of corn and wheat Manchuria will no doubt be the great rival of the United States in supplying the Asiatic markets.

## QUICK CHURNING.

A novelty at the large agricultural show in London is a churn which is reported to make butter in sixty seconds. The cream is placed in the vessel so that the "dasher" is in the centre, and about 11 inches below the surface. The handle is then turned slowly for a few seconds, and then at a good speed, and within one minute butter is formed. If some fresh cold water be poured in, and the handle turned slowly two or three times, the butter is ready for washing and making up.

## KILLED THE PRIZE COW.

The story comes from the Philippine Islands of the untimely end of a prize Jersey cow valued at over \$1000. The cow was to be shipped to the interior together with another cow of no special value intended for beef. When the time came for fresh meat the cook of the transport ship went to slaughter the ordinary cow. He looked both beasts over, the prize winner was the best looking, and the cook killed the prize Jersey before those who knew which was which could enter, and the ordinary cow is still alive and happy.

## INCREASE OF ENGLISH FRUIT CULTURE.

The total number of acres in Great Britain devoted to small fruit is now 72,822, as compared with 77,947 acres in 1904, showing an increase over the latter year of 575 acres, or 1.1 per cent. The acreage covered by orchards is 244,323, as compared with 243,008 in 1904, showing an increase of 1315, or 0.5 per cent.

## SELLING A FARM BY PICTURES.

Those who are trying to sell their farms will find good photographs quite an aid. A number of these should be taken, showing different parts of the farm and the buildings and copies left with the real estate agent. Such pictures will give intending buyers a better idea of the farm than any amount of talk or printed matter. Looking over the little magazine published by the F. F. Leland Farm Agency, it is noted that quite a number of farms are illustrated with views of the buildings, and it looks as if the feature ought to prove attractive to customers. This firm is quite hopeful of the future of New England farm lands and considers that a very distinct improvement has taken place in the demand and the readiness with which sales are effected. The desires of the general public seem to be more and more directed toward the land, and the demand apparently includes not only general farm property, but also woodlands in New England, which are being bought through this and other agencies in large areas for investment. There never was a time when the prospect looked better for owners of real estate in the Northeastern States.

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## Poetry.

## PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

I find a man; his quiver full  
Of arrows—strong, keen and true,  
Whose shafts of right, shall gleam anew  
And shape the course—successful.  
No call for freedom is unheard;  
The sunrise finds his face, and he  
Is armed and equipped—is free  
To answer in deed and word.

The sculptor stands—with every stroke  
Fearlessly a purpose plans;  
Progress sings—a joyful song  
Of golden promise—nor yoke,  
Nor gyle of silver threaded bonds,  
Binds the resolute and strong.

GEORGE HERRIOTT.

## A LITTLE GIRL I KNEW.

There was once a little girl I knew,  
With dark hair braided down her back;  
Shelved next door, as some girls do,  
And I couldn't help feeling she had a knack  
For washing the steps and tending the flowers  
(For the house was a little away from ours.)

I couldn't help hearing the pleasant sound  
That dishes make when they touch the pan;  
I want the king's ransom for the sound  
But I saw and heard as a fellow can.  
(And she was a girl about as spry  
As a trout that leaps to snap the fly.)

And when the windows were opened wide,  
She made the beds and swept the floor,  
Dusted the things on every side,  
And then through the open kitchen door  
I saw her stir the pudding and cake,  
And make the coffee and broil the steak.

You know I surely could hear and see  
(Their house of course not far away),  
And I wasn't as dumb as some might be,  
But I managed once some words to say.  
And so, concluding a fierce combing,  
She moved from their house into mine.

—Flora L. De Wolf, in Sunset Magazine.

## MY ANGEL.

O little child, that once was I,  
And still in part must be,  
When other children pass me by,  
Again thy face I see.

Where art thou? Can the Innocent  
That here no more remains,  
Forget, tho' early banished hence,  
What memory retains?

Alas! and couldst thou look upon  
The features that were thine,  
To see of tender graces none  
Abiding now in mine.

Thy heart, compassionate, would plead,  
And, haply, not in vain,  
As Angel Guardian, home to lead  
The wanderer again.

—J. B. Tabb, in Harper's Magazine.

## NICK!

When mother's sick, the house is all  
So strangely hushed in room and hall!  
But mother never will admit  
She's suffering a single bit—  
She won't let people know a thing—  
There's nothing any one can bring—  
She just lies there, and tries to fix  
Herself, by cunning little tricks!

And as for doctor—why, the word  
She scouts as being most absurd.  
And when he comes he has to guess  
At symptoms that she won't confess;  
And then he's apt to frown and say:  
"You should have had me right away!"

I'll come again this evening!"  
I'll be, you see, a week or more!

When father's sick—I tell you, now  
You ought to hear the dreadful row!  
The talk of "dying," and the groans!  
The orders in conative tones!  
The hasty running to and fro;  
To rearrange the pillow—so;  
To fix hot-water bag and shade;  
For mustard plaster, lemonade!

Appeals to get the doctor, quick—  
And "Can't you see I'm awful sick?"  
And then the doctor sits and hears  
While father grunts his pains and fears.

He leaves some drops and tells us: "Hum!  
Unless I'm needed I shan't come."  
Again, I think he'll do all right,  
And father's up, perhaps, by night!

—Century.

## IN HARBOR.

My little boat is in a bay,  
It swings with gentle motion;  
And there I lie and watch all day  
The far-off, noisy ocean.

The ships go up, the ships go down,  
And never see me spying;  
They are the pride and fear of town,  
Sails wide and colors flying.

They are so strong, they are so tall,  
They fear no storm, no sorrow;  
With brave eyes to the sea, they all  
Set sail for some tomorrow.

Sometimes I long to range and roam,  
My harbor life bewailing;  
But little boats must bide at home,  
To gladly see the sailing.

—Helen Hay Whitney.

## HANDS.

Sing, for with hands  
One thumb and four fingers a-piece,  
They built the temples of Egypt and Greece!  
Sing, for in many lands  
Are things of use and beauty seen,  
That without hands had never been—  
Without skilled hands!

White hands, deft hands,  
No lily is more lovely, oh,  
Nor can the swan more graces show  
Than lady's arm commands!  
O strength of arm and giant's grip!  
O firmness meet to stir a ship!  
O swart, male hands!

Frank hands, free hands,  
When shall my little ones grow great  
And clasp such huge ones for their mate?  
Who thinks, who understands,  
How hands of soldiers and of kings,  
And all those by princesses waved,  
Were once a baby's hands, and craved  
For jangling toys and shining things?"

—T. Sturge Moore.

## Brilliant.

Learn that to love is the one way to know,  
Or God or Man; it is the inner life  
That maketh man to know the inner life  
Of them that love him; his own love bestowed  
Shall do it.

Lord, be Thou tenant of this house of clay  
Morning and noon and night with ceaseless  
care,  
Lest others enter in and, Thou away,  
Make for themselves a hateful lodgment  
there.

So come, my Lord, and make Thy dwelling here.  
And if Thou, entering, seest some evil face  
Leer from its corner, let Thy shining clear  
Purge and illumine every secret place.

Be as fair dawn that makes my darkness flee;  
Be as love's coming when old sorrows go;  
Take Thou my good, but give Thy best to me—  
The Father's, Brother's heart that loved me  
so.

I'll not confer with sorrow  
Till tomorrow;  
But joy shall have her way  
This very day.

—T. B. Aldrich.

## Miscellaneous.

## A Woman Hater.

We naturally looked up to Immolesley. He was considerably older than the rest of us fellows—nearly twenty-one. And he had seen life. Besides, he was a misogynist. We had to ask him what that was at last. It puzzled us for some time. Jerry Hogan said it was something you took a course of at the Lewis Institute, and that a cousin of his was making big money at it. Seattle, but then Jerry died so much we never could believe him. It turned out that it meant a fellow who had't any use for girls. Well, you bet Immolesley hadn't.

He used to tell us that he had been all through the mill and he knew what they were. Well, I don't know what the mill was that he went through exactly, but he knew all about women. We all boarded at the same place, you know—Mrs. Stigmans—and there were some women there boarding.

There was Miss Pentwell. She was a strong rafter in the claim department at Mosely's. She used to sit out on the steps sometimes. Some of the rest of us used to sit with her and Josh and all that, until Immolesley came and told us about what a misogynist was and why every fellow ought to be a misogynist. Then we sort of quit her cold. I heard her laughing about it once, and asking Mrs. Stigmans if she ever saw such a ridiculous set of infamies—meaning Jerry and Jim Scott and me. I don't suppose she could have meant Immolesley.

"She's piqued," Immolesley says, when I told him. "They always are when they don't get the attention their vanity craves. Strange creature!" he says.

I asked him what he thought about her once, and he says: "To tell the truth I've not noticed her. I will, though, if you want to know. There are just two or three types of them, anyway, and I can tell at a glance which she belongs to."

He probably gave her a glance once after that. "A pretty, doll-faced little thing, that Miss Pentwell," he said. "Frivolous, of course. Food of admiration. Shallow of intellect. Easily flattered. She's the kind of woman most men would call attractive. I suppose you think she is."

I said, "Oh, not particularly. I guess there's a good deal of truth in what you say. They're all pretty much alike." I was feeling a little sore about being called an infant. I'm no kid.

"You're flustered it out, are you?" says Immolesley. "Well, it will take you some time, but the sooner you get through with 'em the better. Woman, Pipton, my boy, is harmless to the man who knows her. She's only dangerous to the inexperienced. I can see right through their little airs and graces and their little schemes. There was a time when they rather interested me, but they don't any longer. I'd sooner play a good game of pin-ball than talk to the smartest and sweetest and best looking woman you could bring me. When they're smart they begin to exasperate. They haven't any sense of humor. They haven't any reason—only instinct. They don't know a man when they see one. Any sort of glitter and show catches them. See the way they dress. Always primping and fixing and fussing over themselves—powdering and painting and perfuming."

He took another glance at Miss Pentwell a day or two after that at the supper table. I saw him, so that's why I know. She sort of caught his eyes and half smiled and he sort of got up and the picked beads and looked down at his plate. He didn't raise his eyes again until after she had left the table. I asked him what he was blushing about and he turned on me quite short and asked me what the dickens I meant. Then he said he wasn't blushing, but he had put too much tobacco on his stew.

All the same, it wasn't long before he was sitting out on the steps with her. He said he hadn't anything to do that evening and it was too hot to go to the room. It was pretty warm, but he was having her there, but he was a philosopher.

Then I went into his room one evening and he was fixing his tie before the class. I went out again and came back in about half an hour and he was still fixing his tie, only it was another kind of tie. I told him that I was taking a long time. He said, "Somehow I can't get the blamed thing tied to suit me. How do you think that looks?"

I said I looked all right, and he took another look in the glass and then put on his coat and went down and sat on the steps. Miss Pentwell was there, too.

I smelled Cologne on his handkerchief not long after that. I didn't say anything, though. But, say, if that fellow didn't begin to wear his best clothes every evening to sit on the porch. It was fierce!

Jerry and me tried to josh him one evening, but he was ugly. Jim Scott said: "Women are a pretty bum lot, aren't they, old man?"

"You are a pretty coarse cub," said Immolesley, and there was pride in his fight. He said to me afterward: "I never did like to hear a fellow slandering women." Wouldn't that cork you, so to speak?

Sometimes they sat out there on the steps until ten o'clock. I used to hear Miss Pentwell laughing a good deal. Immolesley was never much of a hand to joke, so I wondered what the fun was, but I never sat out with them, nor the other fellows didn't—except one night we did it for a josh—because Immolesley seemed to get sore directly.

Well, one night Miss Pentwell laughed like all got out. She just shrieked. And I was going out to see what had broke loose when Immolesley pushed by me in the hall, went up stairs three at a time and slammed his door.

I went out and Miss Pentwell was still giggling, but she stopped when she saw it was me. "Can I sit down by you?" I says.

"Yes," she says, "if you'll promise to propose to me. Oh, these children! These children! She ain't more than twenty-five or so herself. She makes me tired."

But Immolesley is just as sarcastic about the women as ever. He doesn't even speak to Miss Pentwell and I thought he was going to end up by liking her.—Chicago News.

## Doubt's Department.

Why, murver, why?  
Did God pin the stars up tight in the sky?  
Why did the cow jump right over the moon?  
An' why did the dish run away with the spoon?  
'Cause didn't he like it to see the cow fly?

Why, murver, why?  
Why, murver, why?  
Can't little boys jump to the moon if they try?  
An' why don't they swim just like fishes in the sea?  
An' why don't the live little birds have wings?  
An' live little boys have to wait till they die?

Why, murver, why?  
Why, murver, why?  
Was all of those blackbirds all baked in a pie?  
Why couldn't we have one if I should say,  
'Pleasee'?

An' why don't you worry when little boys tease?  
An' why don't flags never be now—but blue-ey?  
Why, murver, why?  
Why, murver, why?

Does little boys' brains always ache when they cry?  
An' why does it stop when they're cuddled up close?  
An' what does the sandman do days, do you s'pose?  
An' why do you think he'll be soon comin' by?

Why, murver, why?  
Why, murver, why?  
—Ethel M. Kelley, in Century.

Saving "Old South."  
The ground on which the Old South stands was the dwelling place of Governor Winthrop. Benjamin Franklin was baptized in this meeting-house. The voices of Adams and Hancock and Warren and Washington have been heard within its walls. Ten will see, back of the pulpit platform and below the quaint old sounding-board, the very window through which Gen. Joseph Warren came to deliver his famous oration on the anniversary of the Boston massacre because the crowd in and around the church was so great he could not enter by the door.

In this church were held some of the great meetings leading up to the famous Boston "Tea Party." Indeed, it was from this "Sanctuary of Freedom," as it has been called, that the band of men disguised as Indians started for the wharf to board the ships and throw overboard the

and ten that had created such a turmoil in the city. If you doubt whether the action taken by that band of "Mocha-chas" on the eventful December day in the year 1773, you would finally reach a modern building on the site of G-11th's wharf, at which lay moored on Dec. 16, 1773, the three British ships with cargoes of tea. This house bears a tablet commemorating the famous "Boston Tea-Party," which threw the cargoes into the sea.

Did you ever hear the story of how the Old South was "saved"? Reverence for historic landmarks did not run so high thirty or forty years ago as it does today, and in our centennial year of 1876 it was proposed to sell the Old South simply for the value of its bricks and timbers, and tear it down, that a modern business block might be built on its site. Indeed, it was called "knocked down" at auction to a bidder for the meager sum of \$12,000.

Suddenly a wave of patriotic feeling swept over the city of Boston. The papers and some of the people began to protest against the tearing down of the monument of Freedom, and a movement was set on foot to raise funds to buy the church from its owner, and to buy also the ground on which it stood. This good plan might never have succeeded had it not been for one noble and loyal woman in Boston, Mrs. Mary Hemmings, of hallowed memory. When the difficulty of securing funds for the purchase of the Old South Meeting-house, Mrs. Hemmings felt that it should be something more than a mere silent monument, the donors of which should be a real, living force in our country, and particularly to the children of Boston. She determined that it should renew and increase its fame as a temple of freedom and that the sacred walls should again echo and re-echo to the sound of patriotic utterances, and that some of these utterances should come from the lips of the boys and girls of Boston; and thus the Old South Center Course and the Old South Prizes were established. Each year a prize of forty dollars and another of twenty-five dollars are given to the graduates of the Boston high schools who write the best essays on historic or patriotic topics. The committee having this work in charge announce the subjects in June, just before the schools close, and the competitors submit their essays the following January. Then on Washington's birthday there is a patriotic gathering of the school children of Boston in the Old South Meeting-house and the names of the prize winners are announced.—Nichols.

How Fast a Badger Works.  
During the daytime the badger sleeps deep in his burrow, far out on our Western plains and prairies, and at twilight he starts forth on a night's foraging.

He is a dreaded enemy of the prairie and the ground squirrel; and he begins to excavate for one, nothing but solid rock or death can stop him. With the long, blunt claws of his forefeet he loosens up the dirt. Dig! Dig! Dig! He works as though his life depended on it, now scratching out the sides of the hole, then turning on his back to work overhead.

At first he throws the dirt out between his hind legs, but soon he is too far down for that, so he banks it up back of him, then turns about, and using his chest and hind feet as a pusher, shoves the dirt forward. He works with such rapidity that it would be somewhat difficult for a man to overtake him with a spade.—Nichols.

Geography as It Is Taught.  
Little Rob was the prize geographer of his class; that is, he could locate cities and bound countries with great glibness. He could draw the most realistic maps, printing in the rivers, mountains ranges and cities from memory. He considered geography purely in the light of a game, in which he always beat, but he never associated it with the great world about him. Rivers to him were no more than black, wiggly lines; cities were dots and States were blobs. New York was green, Pennsylvania was red and California was yellow.

Of course Rob had never traveled. He was born in a canon near the country school he attended. One day the teacher made the discovery that the boy's geography was through his following interest. After vainly inquiring of several of the children where British Columbia was located, she called on Rob, who, as usual, was waving his hand excitedly, wild with the enthusiasm of pen-pet knowledge.

"It is on page sixty-eight," he declared. "After the row had subsided the teacher explained that that was only a picture of British Columbia. Then she asked Rob to point out British Columbia on his map." "Success."

On Him.  
Kithi (to Gladys, who has witnessed a game of football for the first time).—"Was Reggie on the eleven?"

Gladys.—"Well, dear, from where I sat it looked as though the eleven were on him."—November Lippincott's.

Ted's Beginnings.  
The new assistant rector was trying to impress upon the mind of his young son the difference between his own position and that of his superior. "Now, Ted," he ended, "I want you to remember to be very polite to the rector. We are strangers, and I am only the assistant; it becomes us to be extremely courteous. Some day, perhaps, I shall be rector myself."

The next day the boy was walking with his father when they met the dignified rector. "Hello!" promptly began Ted. "Pop's been telling me 'bout you—how you're the real thing, an' he's just the hired man an' we got to knuckle under. But some day he may be it himself, an' then you'll see!"—Woman's Home Companion for November.

Notes and Queries.  
THE INVENTOR OF THE LOCOMOTIVE.—His name was Oliver Evans. He was born in Dala, where in 1766 and spent all his life perfecting inventions which were destined to bring him nothing but more poverty. He was the originator of the high pressure engine used in locomotives, the only kind that could be employed to advantage in this form of transportation, but realized nothing for his idea. His application of the notion to both land and water power was somewhat novel. In 1825 the municipality of Philadelphia called for bids for the dredging of the river and the cleaning of the docks. Evans put in a bid lower than any of his competitors and when it was accepted determined to build a steamboat to do the work. He bought a new river with a steam engine, building both the engine and the boat in his own workshop. When the boat was ready to be launched Evans determined to give the people of Philadelphia an object lesson in mechanics, so he got the boat of the river, fitted up a push wheel below, and his engine to the rear, propelled the boat through the streets to the river in the midst of an open mouthed throng, not a few of whom had a dim idea that he ought to be arrested for witchcraft. When the boat reached the river Evans was taken off the craft was launched, fitted out with other wheels and made to do the work of dredging the harbor. So far as the invention of mechanical devices went Evans had a splendid success, but when dollars and cents came up for consideration he was a mere child, and even allowed himself to be cheated out of the money that was due him for cleaning the Philadelphia harbor with his now famous steamboat.

THE PANAMA CANAL.—D. J. J. Estimated cost of the canal \$50,000,000. Amount paid French company for title, \$6,000,000. Amount paid Panama government for perpetual lease of canal lands, \$10,000,000. Length of canal, forty-six miles. Canal width varies from 200 to five hundred feet at top, the bottom width being 150. There will be five twin locks of concrete masonry, each 120 feet long and eighty-two feet wide, with a lifting capacity of thirty to thirty-two feet. Little boats (tugboats) connect the locks, and upon each, Alabamabirds.

Historical.  
—Sarcenet was first made by the Harbours.  
As public conveyances, or the stage coach, had been in vogue in England since 1810, the establishment of a similar conveyance was demanded in America many years before the War for Independence. As early as 1764, therefore, a stage line started to run between New York and Philadelphia. It was called the New York and Philadelphia Stage Line, and by 1788 this route had been extended over from New York to Philadelphia. Moreover, as in England, so in America—the advent of the stage coach necessitated marked improvements in the highways, while the building of better roads was a surprise.

Curious Facts.  
—The banana and potato are almost identical in chemical composition.  
There are no umbrellas in Japan. When a person dies his nearest relative put him into a coffin and bury him. The mourning does not begin until after burial.

—Schuyler Van Ness of an old Long Island Dutch colony court the other day as a vagrant, having been arrested for begging on a ferryboat. He was once a wealthy turban, and owned Morrell, the stallion that won the Futurity in 1891. The magistrate compassionated the poor old man and let him go.

—Mrs. White has been consistently snubbed by the imperial family, and the question arises whether now that her husband has been made a count, they will let her into their society. The silk jersey tops the medium priced ones have a rather coarse pattern, and there is a very cheap cotton top variety which is hardly worth buying. The best of these skirts have a yoke out on a special model, which fits the figure like a glove, and fastening invisibly on the left side of the front gape. It is a most desirable skirt, warm, and not too heavy. It will outlast the taffeta petticoats, since it is always possible to renew the silk flounce at small cost.

—The new waist fashions are very beautiful. Checks, Roman stripes and tartans make up the bulk of them, and the colors are bright and clear, and some being overbrilliant. A very good flannel at fifty cents a yard is warranted to wash without shrinking. School girls will wear flannel waists a great deal this winter, and older women will find them most convenient for morning wear. They are made on the simplest model, a favorite one is fitted close to the body, and has a small pocket on the left side. Another pretty model has three wide box plait back and front, and fastens invisibly.

—The tailored waists in taffeta and plaid silks are very smart and dainty, and it is not hard to predict that they will push the dainty lingerie waists to the wall as soon as real cold weather sets in. This waists are very well in the house, but no woman who values her health and good looks will run the risk of colds by wearing them out of doors. As one trade authority puts it: "It is amazing to hear some manufacturers give their reasons for advocating the lingerie waist for zero weather. One man was heard to say during the week that women should wear it under a gilet jacket and a fur coat in midwinter. It takes a woman buyer to realize the state of the Fall lingerie waist after being subjected to such usage."

—The tulle of the elbow sleeve will probably give the fur trade a boom, for the mink at least will be a necessity. Two furs which have been hitherto as well as the ermine, it is said, are sometimes puzzled to detect the imitation, are ermine and seal. Mink is now got up to resemble seal very closely, while rabbit is clipped and otherwise treated to represent ermine. There is a great demand this year for white fur, ermine, white fox, caracul and the lace-purse muffins, especially for evening wraps.

—The fur-lined coat suffers no decrease of popularity. These coats are being made up in very cheap materials and are should be exercised in selecting garments. The linings should be inspected with particular care. An authority writing in the Dry Goods Economist on the subject of these coats says: "Advances have been made in the manufacturing of cloths, which imitate such furs as British swans, Astrachan, Persian lamb and caracul. These fur cloths are used both here and in Paris for the construction of boleros, box and Empire coats."

—In the popular-priced, fur-lined garments, imitation fur squirrel is also frequently employed for the lining. This, it is considered by competent authorities, will be much more satisfactory to the wearer than the cheap fur lining, as the fur cloth lining will wear well, while there is always a certain risk attending the use of the popular-priced fur lining. Many of the cheaper skins have been in stock so long that they are tender from age, and are liable to crack with the most careful use.

—Fur-trimmed gowns are in fashion once more, after a long retirement. At present the trimming is mostly confined to coats, but a few fur-trimmed skirts are seen. Short-haired fur is used, the popular animal being mink in evidence. The fur is so pliable and so easily manipulated as to make it valuable for trimming purposes. Collars, cuffs and jacket of fur appear on some of the smartest of imported street gowns. Sometimes the skirt shows a few red bellows to match the jacket, but more often it is quite untrimmed.—N. Y. Evening Post.

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## The Horse.

## The Desirable Carriage Horse.

The instincts of the American people naturally incline them to the admiration of a great horse of any class, but they should not be swept into the whirlpool of horse breeding on sentiment alone. It takes more than the love of the horse to be a successful breeder.

Many will ask what is the shape and what are the requirements that constitute a carriage horse? He should be harmonious in all proportions, such as high withers; deep brisket; prominent breast; well sprung ribs; good flank; head of medium size, clean and bony; jaw not too prominent; frontal broad; large, clear eye; ear small at base, of medium length and sharp at point; throat small; neck long with slight crest; sloping shoulders; prominent muscles; back short and powerfully muscled over the loins; curve to the tail; strong hocks, legs and feet, with flat bone and large cords; trotting action quick, high and round, free and clean, with not too long a stride.

Such a horse crossed on mares of a few handsome branches of the trotting families might and probably would give us years ago the Morgan and the horses par excellence. They are handsome to look at and tough as wire nails. They had good, strong legs and strong hearts and stomachs. In color they were blacks, browns, bays or chestnuts.

Their hair showed the lustre of health and the gleam of sunlight, and they were spled with the temper of nerve force, but never stubborn. Physically they were not large horses, but they were all horse. Many were about nine hundred pounds in weight and under fifteen hands, but in harness they looked larger. Breeders who remember the form and type of the Morgan horse should realize that horses of that type, weighing from nine hundred to thirteen hundred pounds, are what the world is looking for.

## Breeders' Notes.

There are four styles of horses for which there is a genuine and earnest demand all over the land today, and for this demand there is not sufficient supply, and in some instances no source of supply. First, the handsome coach horse; second, the sound work horse; third, the prospective 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 yearling harrow performer, and fourth, the handsome and gentle in all places saddle horse.

We have had more inquiry for good horses during the past three weeks than during any likely period for several years. This seems to indicate a shortage of good animals and a further advance in prices. This scarcity of good horses is likely to continue for several years, if business throughout the country remains prosperous.

It is an open question whether or not the forcing of yearlings to such an extent as is necessary to enable them to trot quarter in thirty-five seconds does not injure their ability for racing after they are fully matured. That probably depends considerably upon the hardy constitution of the youngsters, and more still on the judgment of the man who trains them. It evidently did not injure Bingen (2:04) to develop him sufficiently to trot a quarter in thirty-five seconds as a yearling.

During the New York State Fair at Syracuse a horse was exhibited which in some respects was a most remarkable animal. He was a beautifully made gelding, standing two-and-a-half hands high and weighed twenty-eight hundred pounds. He was a rich chestnut in color and of remarkably fine carriage. Wonderful as was his size, his peculiar marks were even more astonishing for growing from the frontal bone, perhaps two inches above the line of the eyes, were two horns about an inch in length, and the white marking in his face was the perfect form of the head and shoulders of a deer.

All over the country one hears the question asked, "Where can I find a pair of fine-appearing carriage horses from fifteen to sixteen hands, stylish, sound and serviceable?" The question does not get one satisfactory reply in ninety-eight. Why is this? It is because of the unwillingness to pay a good price? No; the gentleman that wants them is as a general rule a liberal buyer and an offer of one, two, three, or even five thousand dollars for such a pair is not uncommon. It is not price, nor is it lack of activity to hunt for them, but the part of the gentleman who wants them, or the dealer whose business it is to supply them, for there is no part of this broad land in which there is a probability of finding such horses, where they have not been sought.

Star Pointer (1:58) has been taken to California to the regret of some horsemen. There are plenty of fast pacing stallions left on this side of the Rockies to answer all practical purposes, and great as Star Pointer (1:58) was as a performer and as a sire, some of those that are left are pretty sure to produce as valuable stock as he. The trotting-bred pacer is as fast and as game as any of the pacing-bred ones, and this is what the pacing-bred one seldom does. Trotters, as a rule, require more training to develop their speed than pacers. Fast trotters, however, are in better demand and sell for higher prices than fast pacers, and are preferred to the latter for road use by most horsemen. —Horse Breeder.

**Butter Prices Nearly Steady.**  
With moderate receipts of choice fresh butter dealers are turning more and more to the storage goods and fresh made sells rather slowly unless extra fine. Many shipments are beginning to show extra quality, and need to be choice to compare well with June creamery from storage.

Quotations held at the recent advance, and hardly anything sells above 24 cents, which figure is, in fact, the top figure quotable for regular lines, and the majority of sales range a fraction lower, down to 23 cents for extra Western creamery in large ash tubs. The market appears to hold present prices with some little difficulty, especially for the lower grades, which are in oil supply and dull of sale. Yet there is no special reason to anticipate a sag in prices, other than the rather dull demand noted. Storage creamery, although used in considerable quantities, does not yet cut much figure on the general market. It sells at about one cent below the top price of fresh creamery. Print goods and butter in boxes is in fairly good supply with quotations steady, ranging about one-half cent above tub.

The situation is favorable for storage butter which is being used in considerable quantities by the trade, and such stock as

is taken out seems to be of fine and even quality. The storage of butter has been reduced to a minimum and results in a very nice product when stock was originally good. Fresh butter, however, is, of course, preferred by the trade when the supply is sufficient and not too much above the cost of storage butter. The stock in the storage houses is still considerably larger than last year, although going out at a rapid rate.

Receipts at New York are gradually falling off, as must always happen at this time of year, but shipments are still more than thirty per cent. larger than last year at this time, a condition which is significant when taken in connection with the large reserve in storage. Fortunately the demand is good both for regular receipts and storage goods. The grades lowest of sale are the lower qualities of fresh made stock, which can hardly compete at the same price with summer made butter from storage. The best selling lots are the strictly choice fresh made and the choice summer stored. Several thousand packages of butter were shipped to Europe during the week, nearly all of low-grade stock bought at low prices. Dairy butter is in extremely light supply and selling at about one cent below creamery butter for the small proportion which is of choice quality. The general run of shipments is lower grade and sells at 18 to 22 cents.

Receipts of all grades of butter have kept up on a larger scale than many operators expected, but the season thus far has been very mild and open and the larger territory covered by the centralizing plants undoubtedly is increasing the production anywhere from ten to twenty-five per cent. over last year at this time. There is a very unsatisfactory trade in the lower grades of fresh and the stock is piling up in store. Some houses are burdened with accumulations and are making concessions whenever there is opportunity of moving the goods. On held creamery the movement is not large; a few buyers are interested and occasional sales reported at from 21 to 22 cents, rarely a little more for special lots. It would be very difficult for holders to effect important sales unless concessions were made. No change in New York State dairy and the Western packings are ruling at about late figures.

While the condition of the New York cheese market shows little if any change as far as fancy September cheese is concerned, late made cheese is lower. Fancy grades continue in light available supply outside of cold storage, and holders express themselves as confident regarding the future, and quite firm in their views. In fact, some indifferent about offering specially attractive goods at present figures. Late made goods, however, continue fairly plenty, but showing so seriously defective and outlet so slow that the feeling shows increasing weakness and prices have been reduced another one-fourth cent per pound. These late made goods not only show so seriously defective, but most of the current receipts have been hurried forward too close to the hoop and arriving too green, and such grades as eddily accumulating in receivers' hands. Fine light skins are not in any surplus and sell fairly at steeper prices, but the bulk of the part skins is selling slowly, and with a tendency to accumulate the feeling is weak and irregular.

## Eggs Scarce and Higher.

The price of strictly nearby eggs bounds steadily upward, and now ranges at 40 cents, with nothing really choice going lower, and some premium brands well known to buyers selling even higher. With the nearer approach of the Thanksgiving season there is small probability of lower prices for the present. Supplies, such as they are, are abundant, but not many come under the grade noted, being mostly from the West, and held for a longer or shorter time to command high prices. Nothing from the West sells above 33 cents, and the ordinary run of Western shipments ranges from 25 to 30 cents, some classed as fresh receipts selling no higher than storage eggs. Storage stock is going out steadily at prices showing what storage men consider a living profit. Summer packed eggs sell around 20 cents and April packed 21 to 22 cents.

The stocks of cold storage eggs are going out fast, the rate now being larger than last year at this time. If anything like the present rate of consumption continues through the storage season the enormous stocks will all be taken care of.

Arrivals at New York continue very light and the advice at hand indicates little if any increase in shipments this way, although there seems to be a little more attention on the part of Southern shippers, and there may be some increase from that section. There is a good demand for the few lots of high-grade fresh-gathered eggs obtainable, and for these the market holds a very firm tone. Lower qualities, however, are rather quiet and the movement in refrigerators is not active. There is some call for the finest grades of April stock, for which prices are firmly held, but there is a large offering of average prime storage stock for which the demand is rather slow at the prices generally demanded. Choice lined eggs are scarce and firm.

**Views of the Potato Market.**  
Most Boston dealers seem to think potatoes have about seen top prices for the season. They base their view on the large stock in storage in Maine waiting for an opportunity and empty cars in order to come forward to the large markets. Some of these Maine shippers, however, are re-



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## INSIDE THE MILLER APPLE STORAGE HOUSE.

All apples are gathered in barrels and stored at once in this house, and are then graded and packed at leisure. A carload a day can be shipped easily, as the railroad station is but two hundred yards from the storehouse. Property of E. Cyrus Miller, Ellendale Farm, Haydensville, Mass.

ported unwilling to sell at present prices, but are holding for higher figures later in the season. This state of mind among the shippers is fortunate for the condition of the market, as it insures a gradual marketing of the crop rather than an oversupply at any one time. The price in this market is fully as high as last week, although receipts continue liberal. The shipments from Europe, which are large and liable to become larger with any advance in the market, are the one feature which would tend to prevent any very high prices. Plenty of potatoes seem to be available across the water at prices which permit selling on present market in New York.

It is reckoned that about one-third of the Aroostook potato crop has been shipped to market. Some of the stock is going, by the new water way via Stockton Springs, landing at the Union wharf in Boston. The bag lots are shipped in this way, but bulk potatoes are shipped in cars.

## Immigrants Buying Goose Feathers.

The substantial feather beds filled with goose feathers have become less popular among our native population in most sections. But the demand for the feathers has suddenly increased as the result of the large increase in the number of immigrants during the last few years. The Italians, Poles, Russian Jews and other foreigners that have been swarming into the country by the millions have almost all been accustomed to sleeping in feather beds. Many of them bring their beds along when they come to America, but sell every other article of their household effects as so desirable as they are of having a soft place to sleep. There are, however, many who do not bring them, and they usually spend little time after reaching this shore before they hunt for a feather bed.

It is accordingly no uncommon sight to see a man and his wife, and perhaps a child or two, waiting about the stations leading out from the large cities with apparently little baggage aside from the feather bed. A number of large business houses in New York and Boston have seen the increase in the demand for the goods and have opened stores where they sell nothing else but feathers. The fact that geese are no longer grown in any extent makes it difficult for the dealers to secure enough goods to meet the demand. They have in consequence offered junk dealers good prices for all the old second-hand feather beds they can buy. The junk dealers or ragmen, especially in this and nearby cities, have been making strenuous efforts to get the beds, as they can usually buy them cheap and sell them in New York and Boston at big profits. These peddlers usually travel through all sections of the country, and most of the beds that are purchased come from the back hills. There is, of course, a stray one picked up here and there about the cities and towns which had been retained for grandpa and grandma, but they are greatly in the minority.

## Poultry Plenty. Prices Held Well.

The poultry market holds steady, the weather being so far favorable to handling the stock and creating a demand. Northern turkeys quote at 25 cents and Western at 19 to 20 cents for best quality, with other grades ranging one to five cents below choice. Ice-packed Western turkeys sell about the same as dry packed at this season. Light well-conditioned chickens suitable for broilers are in light supply, the majority of shipments being medium weight and suitable for neither broilers nor roasters. These are rather hard to sell, but both broilers and roasters are easily disposed of if choice. Fowls held at prices last quoted. Live poultry is in fair demand, especially for heavy weight, well-fattened chickens and fowls, but low-grade stock sells cheap.

On the whole, the behavior of the chicken market indicates rather lower prices than last year. At present turkeys quote two to three cents lower than last year at this time and fowls one to 14 cents less. Some dealers say the demand is not quite up to the usual standard, but it is likely that with continued cold, favorable weather there will be plenty of buyers even for the large supplies now arriving and in sight. The quality of shipments seems to average fully as good as last year. The favorable feature is the general prosperity and the apparent willingness of the general public to buy and pay for the best poultry regardless of price. With favorable weather a record-breaking trade is quite possible, although present indications are that the extreme price figures of some years will not be reached.

Spring turkeys are in liberal supply in the current receipts and invoices of stock to arrive later in the week. Trading is moderate today, as speculative buyers are inclined to hold off and await later developments. Holders are steady to firm in their views on fancy grades, but prices without improvement. All indications point to favorable holiday market. Supplies will undoubtedly be heavy, but weather conditions have been favorable, the birds promise to be of better quality than usual for Thanksgiving, while general condition of most of the classes are prosperous and an unusually large consumption is demanded for the season. Some shippers are looking for extra prices, but general indications here are for an 18 to 20 cent market for fancy Western during the holiday season. Chickens and fowls are in lighter supply, and while only moderately active for the

moment the feeling is firmer and prices fully one-half cent higher. Spring ducks were plenty and a shade easier. Spring geese firm for nearby and Western showing a little improvement in quality and a shade firmer.

Poultry shipments continue very large, and nothing but the possibility of putting the surplus into storage has stood in the way of lower prices. Demand so far has not been very lively, but is sure to increase enormously in the days preceding Thanksgiving. The supply of Western turkeys seems to be large, offsetting the very limited shipments from northern New England. The price paid by the consumer will probably be lower than was expected a few weeks ago. Very likely the dealer will have to retail at about 25 to 28 cents a pound, and the shipper will get less than this amount. A great many of the turkeys arriving from distant points are poorly fattened and sell at the lowest price. It is possible to buy plenty of cheap turkeys both in New York and Boston. The only stock likely to bring good prices this year are regular holiday turkeys; that is, good size and well fattened. Thin or otherwise defective turkeys are not salable to the better class of trade. It is reported that one lot of turkeys valued at \$60,000 has been sold by the Kentucky Dealers Association to one of the large Chicago packing firms. These turkeys are reported in excellent condition.

F. B. Keeler & Co., New York: "In view of the approaching holiday (Thanksgiving) we wish to call your attention to the most desirable time for shipping poultry, fruits and produce. Poultry should arrive in New York on the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth and not later than the day of the twenty-seventh of November. Fruit trading will start in a little earlier in the week. Shipments should arrive between the twenty-first and twenty-seventh. Trading will be heavy, and owing to no surplus fruit or poultry being on the market at the present time, indications are that the market will be very favorable. We advise shipments of all the better grades of goods at this season of the year."

## Steady, Strong Hay Markets.

The leading hay markets have remained in a fairly settled condition for some weeks past with prices quite steady, but indicating a strong tone whenever supplies temporarily decreased. The question affecting supply is not so much the reserve in the country districts, which is ample, but rather the supply of freight cars. Some of the railroads refuse to forward hay at times when other freight crowds the lines, and the result is a smaller surplus at the leading receiving points. The range of prices is wide with a gap of \$4 to \$5 between low grade timothy and choice grade, the supply of choice grade being everywhere comparatively small. Clover hay, however, is generally plenty and comparatively low.

The following shows the highest prices for choice timothy hay in the markets mentioned as quoted for the Hay Trade Journal: Boston \$17, New York \$17, Brooklyn \$17, Jersey City \$17, Philadelphia \$15.50, Pittsburg \$13.50, Buffalo \$13, Montreal \$9, Baltimore \$15, Richmond \$14.50, New Orleans \$15, Nashville \$14.50, Savannah \$14, Norfolk \$14.50, Atlanta \$17, Kansas City \$11.25, Minneapolis \$10.50, St. Paul \$10.50, Chicago \$13.50, St. Louis \$14.50, Cincinnati \$12.75, Louisville \$13.

## Meat Provisions Dull and Weak.

The beef trade is a little dull and quiet, but the approach of the season when poultry commands chief attention and quotations are a grade lower than last week. Muttons and yearlings hold about steady, also spring lambs. Veals hold unchanged. The veal season has been one of the best on record, taken as a whole. Hogs range a fraction lower and are in light demand. Apparently some hog owners marketed their stock before fat enough to grade as best quality. Very likely the high price of corn meal induced this course of proceeding.

Game is generally in moderate supply with fair demand for rabbits, venison and bear meat at prices quoted.

## Good Prices for Fruit.

The apple trade is a little dull and quiet, with prices barely holding their own as last quoted. Increased shipments have continued on account of the disposition of farmers to ship to market rather than to attempt the extra labor of storage in cellars at the approach of cold weather. No doubt this condition is temporary, and a little later the market may considerably improve. Baldwin apples are really good range around \$2.50. No. 1s sell at \$1.50 to \$2. Other varieties show no special change. Low-grade cull apples are peddled on the streets by the nearby farmers at 50 to 75 cents a bushel.

The cranberry market continues very firm. Dealers say there will be enough cranberries to go around provided the consumers are willing to pay the price. The top quotation in this market is \$11 for regular lots, although a few well known choice varieties sell a little higher. Ordinary lots ranging common to good sell at \$7 to \$8.

Grapes are in considerable demand although the proportion of choice quality is not large at this season. Prices range from 14 to 20 cents per bushel, and are not expected to change much.

low grade Anjou to \$5 for choice Bosc. Jersey Keiffers sell at \$1.50 to \$3 per bushel, with natives about 50 cents higher than Jerseys.

At New York demand for apples is quiet and with heavy offerings the market opens weak, though holders asking about 10 cents per bushel, and some exceptionally fine fruit from Vermont and also from Western sections is commanding more than quoted. Pears in light remaining stock and quotations little more than nominal. Quinces are about cleaned up. Grapes are in light supply and anything showing choice quality sells well, but poor stock dull and irregular. Cranberries are very firm in shipping sections, and with continued good trading here, the market is well sustained, with some fancy fruit commanding more than quoted.

## Some Uses of Vegetables Higher.

The price of beans continues to mount upwards, the range now being \$1 to \$1.15. The kind demanded are the round dark red varieties of medium to small size. No overgrown beans are wanted, those of the half-long varieties on the whole if shipped have to be sold at a big discount.

Onions are barely holding their own, with shipments quite large and demand a little dull. Extra choice, however, bring fully former quotations. Squashes are in over-supply and prices continue low. Squashes, in fact, are selling at a lower level than almost any other standard vegetable. Turnips hold prices well. Egg turnips are quite plenty this year, selling at 50 cents a bushel. Rutabagas about \$1 a bushel with large lots selling lower.

Potatoes continue to be shipped in large quantities to this market and prices show a slight weakness on account of the over supply, although lower figures are prevented because of the strong feeling in the shipping centres in Maine, Michigan and New York State, where the shippers refuse to sell at less than growing prices, preferring to wait in hope of higher figures. Seventy-five cents is about top price in Boston for choice Green Mountains. From that range is down to 65 cents for red Shennans from Prince Edward Island. Sweet potatoes are in light supply but selling as low or lower than white potatoes.

At New York domestic potatoes are held slightly higher, especially Maine, which

have advanced fully 5 cents, but European offerings are larger and market lower for those. Irish seldom exceed \$2, and that figure is about top for average best German; fancy Scotch would command more, possibly up to \$2.25, but there are no offerings. Sweet potatoes are in heavy supply and weak, average Southern stock selling at 75 to 85 cents. White onions lots are without improvement; yellow, unchanged in price, but tone is weaker; red, steady to firm for strictly prime. Cabbages firm. Brussels sprouts are in light supply. Cauliflower is in much larger supply and lower, though some fancy marks work out above quotations. Cucumbers are moving slowly, but quality is largely poor. Celery quiet. Eggplants steady. Horseradish in liberal supply. Kale and scallions firm. Spinach sells well at 75 cents to \$1, except very poor, which range lower. Lettuce is increasing in supply, offerings including some Florida stock; demand fair, but quality irregular and prices vary accordingly. Lima beans are about cleaned up, and the few remaining lots show very ordinary quality. Peppers steady. Very few peas are arriving and quality is irregular. Radishes are scarce and high. String beans sold well and prices advanced about 20 cents. Tomatoes are dragging at late prices.

Shippers will likely receive fair prices for fancy turkeys which reach here the latter part of this week, as there will no doubt be many buyers in the market buying at that time who want to buy early and not wait for the rush which will likely ensue the first few days next week. Everybody seems to be agreed that the consumers are going to want a good many turkeys this fall on account of excellent business conditions, and the fact that all lines of labor are employed. There are very few strikes in effect now. Workmen are receiving fair wages, and as other lines of trade are in very satisfactory shape, it is believed that more consumers will be wanting turkeys for their Thanksgiving dinner this year than ever before. At the same time the trade argues that there will be a good market for fancy spring chickens, as speculators and retailers are already buying in such way as would indicate that they are preparing to meet this demand.

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